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OPINION METER

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INSIDE



Mes Man'Amko

The month of May has been declared Older Americans Month.

LOCAL...Page 6



No Appetite

Obama says there "may not be an appetite" in Congress to deal with immigration now.

NATION...Page 22



Divorce

Sandra Bullock is dumping her two-timing husband and welcoming a new guy into her life.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 26

THE BEST PREPAID
DEAL ON SAIPAN

SUPERCHARGED
is back!



See GRANT on Page 4

Faith, effort, determination won the day—DeWitt. PAGE 2
NMI, Guam govs slam Guam Legislature resolution. PAGE 15

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Recommendations on foreign workers' status known today

» Worker groups hope US Congress will quickly act on Interior recommendations



FOUR PROCLAMATIONS

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos poses with Department of Public Safety officials, officers, and personnel in front of the administration building after yesterday's proclamation signings for DPS events. Inset, DPS officials, officers, and personnel witness Inos signing one of the four proclamations for DPS at the governor's conference room.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

20 agents conduct raids on Tinian

» 3 alleged illegal drug traffickers fall

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Twenty members of the CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force and the Department of Public Safety's Criminal Investigation Bureau went to Tinian yesterday to raid three houses and arrest three suspected illegal drug traffickers.

The officers returned to the Smiling Cove Marina on Saipan with the suspects between 3:30pm and 4pm aboard two Boating Safety Unit rescue boats.

The suspects—Kurt John B. King, 29, of Marpo Valley; See AGENTS on Page 4

Inos: Work hour cuts until 2011, no tax hikes anytime soon

» Senate sets budget hearings separate from House

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Inos

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos assured yesterday that the Fitial administration will not raise taxes and fees anytime soon so as not to increase the cost of doing business in the CNMI, in contrast to the Senate's proposal to cover budget shortfalls.

See INOS on Page 4

After a two-day delay, Assistant Interior Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta is set to arrive today to formally present Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos with the U.S. Department of the Interior's recommendations to Congress on the immigration status of alien workers in the CNMI.

See STATUS on Page 4



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Local

Faith, effort, determination won the day—DeWitt

Manta Ray Band plans big thank you concert

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Band is back on island after a victorious second-place finish in the New York International Music Festival last week and the group is planning to hold a free concert for the Commonwealth to thank everyone who helped make their trip to Carnegie Hall possible.

The band's musical director, Will DeWitt, summed up the secret of their success in three words: faith, effort, and determination.

"Faith, effort, and determination won the day! That is the larger lesson of our experience," DeWitt said a few days after the 40-member band's arrival on the islands.

DeWitt said this experience truly broadened the horizons for his students, the school, and the community.

"Barriers to dreaming big no longer exist in the minds of our talented musicians. Thanks to the support of hundreds of individuals, businesses, and organizations throughout the CNMI we have proven once again that our young people are immensely

capable of greatness," he said.

He said their runner-up performance in the world's most prestigious stage—Carnegie Hall—prompted many to realize that the biggest limitations in life are the ones they place upon themselves.

In order to make it to New York City, the band's members organized several fundraisers and sought donations from a number of groups in the local community.

In a national radio interview last week, DeWitt said that many band members could not even afford to buy their own

musical instruments, yet are still very willing to learn music.

"I truly think everyone understands what a treasure we have in our young people. We must support their dreams and equip them so they could boldly pursue their dreams on behalf of themselves and our community at large. By investing in students like those in the Manta Band and prioritizing their quality education we reap exponential dividends," he said.

DeWitt said they will forever be grateful to all those who supported the group.

"There is always a risk when listing all of our beneficiaries for fear of unintentionally omit-

ting one. I would like to express our sincere appreciation to every single benefactor for the incredible outpouring of support we have received. Literally hundreds of people have made this experience possible for our deserving student musicians! We are planning a thank you concert—free of charge—to the public and especially our generous donors in the month of May or June," he said.

One band, one sound

According to 10th grader Rebekah Lee, who plays the flute, music is another language people learn.

"The music sheets are the maps the listeners/musicians will follow, or listen to, and we [the band] are the compass telling the listeners which way," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

When he first heard the sound quality of the Carnegie stage, 9th grader Kevin Fejoran was

speechless.

"I wish we could have rehearsals there so I could hear it every day. The experience —to me—was awesome!" said Fejoran, the band's euphonium player.

Mereylen Denora, 11th grade and trumpet player, said the bond she shares with the group helped them interpret the songs as a whole group.

"One band. One sound. The emotions we feel for each other were evident in the music we played for the judges," she shared.

"After performing and hearing the other competitors perform then winning the silver award, we learned that we can still go higher, and improve even more!" said Fumi Nimura, 11th grader.

Percussionist Jaynine Parico, for her part, said, "I learned that someone like myself could achieve amazing things through teamwork, effort, and dreaming big."

With the teamwork and perseverance of the group, Joe Ray Dela Cruz is convinced that nothing is impossible now for the Manta Band.

R.J. Guiao and Momoko Nishikido also shared that the event taught them to be more open and have more fun getting to know new people.

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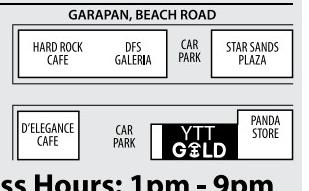
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Half of public schools expected to meet national SAT rate this year

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Half of the 20 public schools in the CNMI are expected to achieve the national rate in the Stanford Achievement Test, according to Public School System federal programs officer Tim Thornburgh.

Despite the many challenges PSS faced this year, Thornburgh said it is not far-fetched to predict that as much as 10 public schools will be at the national rate by the end of school year.

Data obtained by *Saipan Tribune* showed that PSS students demonstrated good marks in the battery of tests in school year 2005-2006, registering a percentile rank of 35, which is five

points higher than the target national percentile rank of 30.

In 2006-2007, they remained on top after exceeding by one point the target national percentile rank of 36th and 41st percentile ranks, respectively. Last school year 2008-2009, all grade levels still managed to achieve the 45th percentile ranking.

This school year, Thornburgh said, PSS is targeting at least half of its schools to be on the 50th percentile rank, which is the rate at the national level.

"Our schools are, as a school district, meeting their AYP targets and we project that at least half of our schools will meet the 2010 student learning goal which is the national goal, or

Same suspects burglarize San Antonio house twice

The NMI Crime Stoppers Program yesterday sought the public's help in solving two burglaries in San Antonio, believed to be perpetrated by the same suspect or suspects.

Crime Stoppers coordinator Jason Tarkong said police responded to a burglary at a residence near San Antonio beach in the afternoon of March 23. The items stolen included cash and a gray Hewlett Packard laptop.

Tarkong said the laptop was recovered on the beach near the

residence.

A week later, on March 30, police responded to another burglary at the same victim's residence, Tarkong said. This time, the stolen item was a purple Acer laptop computer.

"Both burglaries occurred in the daytime during the late morning or early afternoon. Police believe the crimes were committed by the same suspect/s," Tarkong said.

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LOCAL

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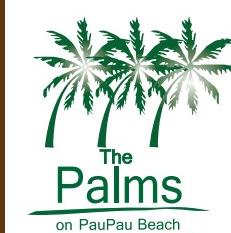
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EPA sets earlier deadline for CUC to remove waste oil

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has changed to June 2010 its original October 2010 deadline for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to remove waste oil from Tank 104 in Lower Base.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, in his latest

extension of the emergency declaration for CUC, said the utilities agency awarded a contract to Gresco for the waste oil removal and disposal.

"The EPA has strongly urged CUC to accelerate the removal, bringing the 'empty' date forward from October 2010 to June 2010. EPA has also required CUC to purchase and install special double-walled 'iso' tanks for

use in the project," Fitial said in an April 23, 2010 executive order.

The removal of waste oil from Tank 104 is one of CUC's seven priority projects to ensure compliance with two federal court orders.

These stipulated orders between the CNMI and EPA set the requirements and deadlines for CUC to comply with the mandates of the Clean Air Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act.

On Feb. 18, EPA filed a status report

were booked and detained at the Department of Corrections.

DPS spokesman Eric David told *Saipan Tribune* that Superior Court associate judge David Wiseman, who issued the search and arrest warrants,

imposed a \$30,000 cash bail for each suspect.

The three are expected to appear in the Superior Court today, Friday, for a bail hearing on charges of illegal possession of controlled substance and

sole source contract for Nogis, a copy of which was obtained by *Saipan Tribune* through an Open Government Act request.

Nogis, doing business as FELNO Consulting Services, already has a \$60,000 sole source contract with the Department of Public Lands for Northern Islands development and other projects.

"FELNO Consulting Services is familiar with the federal grants process and the ability to communicate in both Chamorro and Carolinian languages, which is necessary for communicating with the residents of the Northern Islands," Dela Cruz said in a two-page memo to Procurement and Supply director Herman Sablan.

Dela Cruz also said that FELNO Consulting "is experienced and knowl-

edgeable of wildlife surveys in the Mariana Islands and of the remote Northern Islands, as well as the intricacies of local and federal government procedural laws and regulations."

Dela Cruz said the CNMI entered into a cooperative agreement with the USFWS to conduct surveys of the Northern Islands as part of the military buildup in Guam.

The USFWS and the CNMI intend to identify the resources that exist in the Northern Islands, and catalog the species and habitat.

"As the U.S. Department of Defense is operating under a specific timeframe, it is important to conduct surveys now. It is necessary to ensure the services of a logistics coordinator to be the point of contact in matters pertaining to the

the 2011 budget is premised under the same assumptions—austerities and so forth—so that we can start getting used to reduced hours, or reduced holidays or reduction in pay," Inos told *Saipan Tribune* after signing a proclamation yesterday declaring May as Older Americans Month or *Mes Man'amko*.

Projected revenue for FY 2011 is \$132 million, further down from the already revised \$137 million for the remainder of FY 2010.

Inos reiterated that the Senate's rejection of the administration-backed austerity bill will make the government's financial matters worse.

"I'm sure the legislators who do not want that kind of action in the current fiscal year better [act] fast on how to resolve the 2011 budget because the 2011 budget is basically built on the same assumptions," he added.

The Senate offered instead to raise many of the existing taxes and fees, and impose new ones.

"What they're [senators] trying to do is reduce the ability of businesses

to sustain operations by imposing more taxes. I believe that at this point, there's still room for cuts instead of increasing costs," Inos said.

Untapped sources'

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce, the largest business organization in the CNMI, is strongly opposed to the Senate's version of the bill.

Chamber president Douglas Brennan said the Senate version of the House austerity bill "has eliminated virtually all governmental cost savings and imposes significant tax and fee increases, which will ultimately be borne by taxpayers and voters and will have the effect of reducing economic activity in the Commonwealth."

Brennan said the Senate version of the bill does not materially decrease government spending, will increase fees and taxes, and will decrease taxpayer rebates.

He said neither version of the bill acknowledges or addresses the option of increasing fee and tax revenues from

it decides to grant "green cards" to non-resident workers in the CNMI.

Babauta was originally scheduled to come to Saipan on April 28, but because some federal agencies took longer than expected to weigh in on the report, Babauta's visit was postponed to today.

As Babauta briefs Fitial and Inos on Capitol Hill today, Federal Labor Ombudsman Pamela Brown will simultaneously hold a briefing on the report at her office for representatives of worker groups and other private sector entities.

The Interior report is a requirement under U.S. Public Law 110-229 or the federalization law.

Eyes on Congress

Rabby Syed, president of the United Workers Movement-NMI, said the

group looks forward to Interior's recommendations on what to do with foreign workers in the CNMI.

"We are excited to attend the briefing to learn about the recommendations for alien workers. As workers, we need to have a unified voice to send a message to the U.S. Congress, to please take rapid action on the recommendations of the Interior. We hope it won't take Congress years to act on the recommendations. But first, we want to know what's in the report," Syed said.

The federal government took over CNMI immigration on Nov. 28, 2009, but there is no final regulations yet governing the immigration status of foreign workers, foreign investors and foreign students in the CNMI.

Syed said he has always been "optimistic" that Interior's report and recommendations will be favorable to

in the U.S. District Court for the CNMI, highly critical of the progress of CUC's efforts to comply with the order's requirements to solve problems with used oil.

"Since that report, CUC has contracted Gresco firm to remove waste oil from Tank 104," Fitial said.

CUC, which is now directly under the Office of the Governor, is also still waiting for the arrival of 30 additional sewer pumps it ordered.

Fitial first declared a state of emergency for CUC in August 2008.

ue, with most pumping stations having only one of two required pumps installed," Fitial said.

In his 20-page executive order, the governor also said that CUC will review and evaluate seven candidates who applied for the position of CUC deputy director for water and wastewater. The review team includes CUC executive director Tony Muña.

Fitial first declared a state of emergency for CUC in August 2008.

sist arrest. David said he has no information yet as to whether the suspects are involved in selling methamphetamine ("ice") or marijuana. He also has no information whether illegal drugs were seized during the raids.

He then asked Procurement and Supply for a sole source contract to assist the USFWS with the scheduled surveys for the Northern Islands terrestrial/marine survey project.

Government employees about to face work hour cuts have criticized sole source contract awards to persons identified with the ruling Covenant Party. DPL's revenues and expenses are not part of the general fund. DLNR's proposed contract, meanwhile, is funded through federal grants.

Nogis is a Covenant Party member and a member of the Fitial-Inos Transition Review Committee. He is chairman of the Committee to Elect Joseph N. Camacho as CNMI Delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives under the ruling Covenant Party.

He said the administration is still watching revenues closely, and hopes that the projected revenues will not fall below \$137 million.

The work hour cuts are necessary to cut government spending, which exceeded allotments by \$17.6 million in the first six months of FY 2010 alone.

Senate budget hearings

Meanwhile, the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee will conduct its own FY 2011 budget hearings for different government departments and agencies on Saipan, Tinian and Rota in May and June.

These Senate budget hearings will be separate from the ongoing budget hearings conducted by the House Ways and Means Committee.

Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee chair Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota) scheduled 14 separate budget hearings—10 on Saipan in May, and two each on Tinian and Rota in June.

The Senate will be conducting more hearings involving more agencies than the House committee.

of workers rights, said yesterday that he again received threats from at least one anonymous male caller.

He said he used to ignore such threats but the messages have become more serious starting Wednesday.

"The caller said 'I'm going to get you. Go back to Bangladesh,'" said Syed, adding that he reported the phone threats to the Department of Public Safety and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"I want to say to the individual calling that if he has concerns, he can talk to me and we can discuss issues. There's no need to resort to this kind of attitude. My message to workers is not to be scared of death threats and phone threats. We are not doing anything wrong. This should not stop us from doing what we believe is right," said Syed.

Threats

Syed, who has long been an advocate

San Jose Fiesta King and Queen coronation tonight

The coronation night for the San Jose Fiesta King & Queen is slated tonight at the fiesta open grounds in San Jose, Tinian.

Tinian Mayor Ramon M. Dela Cruz told *Saipan Tribune* that the San Jose Fiesta King & Queen is part of the San Jose fiesta celebration that started yesterday and will conclude Sunday night.

The winners for the San Jose Fiesta King & Queen will be based on the amount of money raised by the candidates.

Dela Cruz said that there will be 30 vendor booths and two live bands from Guam who will participate in this year's fiesta.

There will also be different sporting events, including basketball, baseball, tennis, and canoe racing.

Dela Cruz said that for the first time, they are introducing the horseshoe tournament, which is fast becoming very popular on Tinian. The money raised from the horseshoe tournament will be used for the man'amko on the island, he added.

Dela Cruz told *Saipan Tribune* that they scaled down this year's celebration so the budget is lower compared to last year. "Everybody is hurting these days. The economy is bad and everybody is

tightening their belt."

According to Dela Cruz, budget constraints prompted them to rely on other funding sources for the fiesta. "We're mostly banking on the generosity of the private sector. We're doing a lot of fundraising for different activities because the government doesn't have the money."

Last April 10, the Tinian Mayor's Office hosted the first Mayor Perpetual Cup Golf Tournament, which raised more than \$5,000. The money raised from the golf tournament and the San Jose Fiesta King & Queen raffle tickets will be used for needed repairs at San Jose church.

Dela Cruz said that despite the temporary suspension of the ferry services to Tinian, they are still counting on the faithful from neighboring islands to visit and show their support.

Dela Cruz also said they are expecting Mayor Melchor Mendiola of Rota and some mayors from Guam to attend.

Dela Cruz is asking the Tinian community for their continued support of the San Jose fiesta. "I ask them to continue to be generous toward the church. I also ask them to volunteer their time, to help clean up the community, keep [it] beautiful so that people

will continue to come here."

The San Jose fiesta celebration will be held at the open grounds adjacent to the Kammer Beach.

A novena Mass and procession will be held at 4:30pm on May 1. The traditional banquet will follow after the procession. The raffle drawing of San Jose Fiesta King & Queen tickets will be held on Sunday night.

Major sponsors for this year's celebration are Pacific Trading and Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino. (*Saipan Tribune*)

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COMMONWEALTH OBSERVES MES MAN'AMKO

Man'amko urged to 'Age strong! Live strong!'

The month of May has been declared Older Americans Month and Office on Aging director Rose DLG Mondala is advising the islands' elderly population—the man'amko—to stay healthy and strong.

"Live life, exercise, love and respect one another so we can all age strong and live long," Mondala told the 78 man'amko that attended the proclamation signing at the Office on Aging yesterday.

Mondala also repeatedly told the man'amko "to watch

your sugar," much to their amusement.

The proclamation, which was read in English, Chamorro, and Carolinian, was signed by Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos.

Also present during the proclamation signing were Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Melvin L.O. Faisao, Council for Arts and Culture executive director Angel Hocog, acting resident executive for Indigenous Affairs Ignacio DLG. Demapan, special assistant for Administration Esther S. Flem-

ing, and press secretary Angel Demapan.

According to Mondala, the Office on Aging has designed programs and activities for the month of May that exemplifies the Older Americans Month theme and to support the competitive spirit of the man'amko.

The theme of the celebration is, "Age Strong! Live Long!"

The Office on Aging has scheduled a softball game, pool tournament, ground golf tournament, and a conference in celebration of Older Ameri-

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Mondala told *Saipan Tribune* that their office currently has about 75 congregates (those who go to the Aging Center)

and 138 homebound clients.

Surprise guest

The man'amko were told yesterday that there would be a sur-

prise guest during the proclamation signing. Benita B. Cepeda, 72, said she didn't know who the guest was and got only clued in when Ronald McDonald strode into the room.

Cepeda and the other man'amko took turns hugging the famous mascot of one of the world's largest hamburger chains.

Ronald McDonald talked with the man'amko and had his picture taken with them.

Genoveva Domingo, 75, was surprised and thankful that Ronald McDonald took time off to visit them. (*Saipan Tribune*)



The man'amko greet Ronald McDonald with hugs in yesterday's proclamation signing for Mes Man'Amko at the Aging Center in Garapan.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Demapan hails NMI's true democratic spirit, as Judiciary marks 'Law Week'

yesterday

"We believe in the rule of law. Each of us wants the Commonwealth to succeed. We want a safe place for our children to live in," said Demapan in his remarks during ceremonies proclaiming May 1 to 7, 2010 as Law Week.

He said the CNMI is facing a lot of challenges, ranging from money woes and economic, education, judicial or legislative challenges, to Executive Branch challenges.

"We want a good economy for our people to work and enjoy. We want good education

system. We want a place to resolve disputes and resolve social issues," he said.

The bottom line is that people still want a place where the rule of law is paramount, he said.

The celebration's theme is "Law in the 21st Century: Enduring Traditions, and Emerging Challenges."

Demapan thanked students from various schools who joined the Judiciary yesterday at the CNMI Supreme Court courtroom and expressed appreciation to the CNMI Bar Association representatives led by their president, Maya Kara, for being supportive of all law-related programs in the Commonwealth.

"Without your help and assistance, the programs we design for our children would not be possible," he said.

Demapan praised the Humanities Council chairman and members for co-hosting with the Judiciary important events such as the mock trial and Covenant Day debate; to the Tan Siu Lin Foundation, represented by its manager, Edward Arriola Jr., for its financial support that makes the mock trial and Covenant Day debate as well as other Judiciary events possible.

Demapan also thanked his colleagues on the bench as well as the Judiciary staff "who labor so hard to prepare for all of these events" and for yesterday's ceremony.

Demapan led justices and judges in presenting awards to the winners and outstanding participants in the recent mock trial and the Covenant Day debates.

Law Week, Demapan said, provides an opportunity for people to understand and appreciate the emerging challenges that confront the world—and the law—in the 21st century, while reaffirming enduring legal traditions.

Law Week has been an annual observance since President Dwight Eisenhower established it in 1958 as "a week of national dedication to the principle of government under law."

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Man in sex abuse case gets 12 years

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman has imposed a 12-year prison term on a man who sexually abused a boy and tried to sexually abuse another boy.

Wiseman sentenced Shafiqul Islam to 15 years in prison, all suspended except for 10 years, for sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree. Eight years of the 10-year term are mandatory with no parole.

In the attempted sexual abuse of a minor charge, the judge sentenced the 42-year-old Islam to five years in prison, all suspended except for two years.

Both sentences shall run

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consecutively.

Islam was given credit for the 174 days that he had already served in jail. This means that Islam's total actual sentence is 12 years minus 174 days. His release date from the Department of Corrections is Nov. 25, 2021.

"The court believes that this is a case where the best interests of justice and of this society will be best served by imposing a jail term that the court believes will have a deterrent effect on the life of the defendant upon his release, and more important, on potential offenders, and will incapacitate this defendant for a period of time that he may be incapable of committing such acts again," Wiseman said.

The judge ordered Islam to submit to HIV testing within 30 days of sentencing and required him to register as a sex offender.

In the event that Islam, a Ban-

gladeshi national, is not deported upon his release, he will be placed on supervised probation for the duration of his suspended sentence, Wiseman said.

The judge ordered him to write letters of apology to the victims and their families and barred him from having any contact with the victims or any minors without the presence of an adult.

Islam was accused of sexually abusing a 12-year-old boy in exchange for \$2 and attempting to sexually abuse an 11-year-old boy after offering him \$2. According to the prosecution,

the incidents happened at a barracks and in a room at the Muslim mosque in Garapan between August and September 2009.

A jury found him guilty of the charges on March 11.

Islam used to work as a carpenter. He is now jobless.

Wiseman said CNMI's public laws represent the will and sentiment of the people of the community and when it comes to sexual abuse of a minor, they have spoken loud and clear, with harsh sentences such as the 30-year jail term with a mandatory of eight years plus up to \$50,000 fine.

Fund names deputy administrator

The NMI Retirement Fund has named its investment director as the agency's deputy administrator, primarily tasked to assist administrator Mark Aguon in his multiple tasks as the head of the agency.

Richard Villagomez, who

has been with the Fund for nine years, will be handling two positions pending the selection of his replacement as investment director.

The board of trustees approved the creation of the deputy position in January, recognizing the amount of work being shouldered by Aguon.

As part of his new responsibilities, Villagomez will assist in the management and control of the pension program, the defined benefit plan and defined contribution plans, the Member Home Loan Program and Group Health and Life Insurance, and the Workers' Compensation Commission.

His selection was based on the recommendation of the board's personnel committee that reviewed his credentials and qualifications for the post.

Saipan Tribune learned that the Fund converted and reclassified some FTEs to enable the agency to hire a deputy, a new position for the Fund. (**Moneth G. Deposa**)

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Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

April 30, 1999

EAGI: Confirmation of Teno nominee uncertain

A nominee for the board director of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is facing Senate inquiry over potential violation of a law prohibiting government employees to seek a board position, according to senators. The individual, whom senators refused to name, is currently employed in the CNMI government. There are two people recently re-appointed by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio to the CUC board: Laura I. Manglona, representing Rota and Rosario M. Elameto, representing the Carolinians. They, along with other newly-nominated members of various government boards, were grilled yesterday by the Senate committee on Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigation in a meeting before their confirmation by senators.

Third boat with illegal Chinese immigrants diverted to Tinian

A third boat, carrying approximately 100 illegal Chinese immigrants, was intercepted by the US Coast Guard and is expected to arrive on Tinian today amid growing security concerns from Commonwealth officials. Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday said he was informed by Labor and Immigration Secretary Mark D. Zachares that another boat will pull in this morning at the San Jose Harbor, few days after a boatload of undocumented Chinese was diverted to the island municipality. The governor did not provide other details regarding arrest of the Chinese.

April 30, 2001

Quick response contain Saipan seaport oil spill

Swift action taken by the Port of Saipan management prevented what could have been an environmental disaster due to an oil spill at the South Baker Friday, involving about 20 gallons of fuel. In an interview, Port of Saipan Manager Antonio Cabral disclosed that *Saipan Mariner*, a cargo vessel docked at the South Baker, had stress metal on its oil tank that caused a rapid oil spill. Immediately, seaport attendants called the attention of the Commonwealth Ports Authority, the Marines Safety Detachment Saipan and Shell Marianas to clean the area.

CPA caps ports week celebration

Hundreds of Saipan residents trooped to Saipan Harbor Saturday to participate in a whole-day public tour of military ships to cap the celebration of the CNMI Ports Week. Port of Saipan management waived parking fees to allow visitors easy access to the harbor facilities including several booths that were erected to give free lectures on various commodities. Tents were also set up to allow seaport tenants to present their wares and educate the public on various merchandise.

April 30, 2002

Environmental groups oppose exemption bill

Various environmental groups have joined hands in opposing a bill pending before the U.S. Congress that would give the military special exemptions to environmental laws, that include a "blanket exemption" to kill migratory birds and destroy their nesting areas, even on Farallon de Mendinilla. Twenty-one groups signed a joint letter expressing opposition to the Defense Authorization Bill, which was sent to the Congress recently. The groups include the Center for Biological Diversity, the organization that sued the U.S. Navy and Department of Defense to stop the bombing exercises on Farallon de Mendinilla. "We strongly urge you to oppose any provisions in the Defense Authorization Bill that are designed to exempt the Department of Defense from the Clean Air Act, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Superfund (CERCLA), the Endangered Species Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, or the Marine Mammal Protection Act," the letter, addressed to American congressmen, stated.

NMI lays fate of FDM on US Congress

Reiterating the administration's support for the continued military bombing exercises on Farallon de Mendinilla, Lt. Gov. Diego T. Benavente said the U.S. Congress is expected to act responsibly in allowing military activity to continue without compromising environmental protection and that of migratory bird habitats. Benavente said this in reaction to a bill pending at the U.S. Congress, which would exempt the Farallon de Mendinilla from the requirements of the Migratory Birds Treaty Act. Washington Rep. Pete A. Tenorio reported that "the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Military Readiness included language in the Fiscal Year 2003 Appropriations Bill for the Department of Defense to exempt the military from some environmental laws to improve military bases and bombing ranges."

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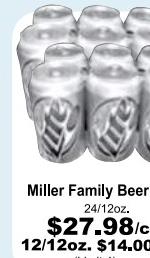
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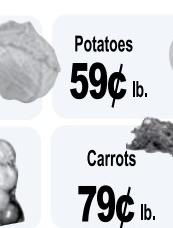
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Opinion

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Senate should consider climate change legislation first

It's too bad the Senate can't do two things at once, tackling both immigration and climate-change legislation this year. Both are crucial.

But if lawmakers must choose, then Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham is right: Getting a climate and energy bill through the Senate—which could help foster green-tech growth in Silicon Valley—ought to come first.

The House passed its version last summer, and Graham has been working with Sens. John Kerry and Joe Lieberman for months to garner bipartisan support, a welcome departure from the bickering that usually characterizes Washington. They were set to introduce a bill Monday, until Graham threatened to withdraw his sponsorship if Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid allowed immigration reform to cut in line.

Immigration reform is a necessity, and the draconian measure signed last week in Arizona shows what can happen in the absence of strong, fair federal policy. But neither House nor Senate lawmakers have completed the groundwork necessary to bring a bill to the floor. So the only reason to consider the matter now is political—to help Reid win re-election.

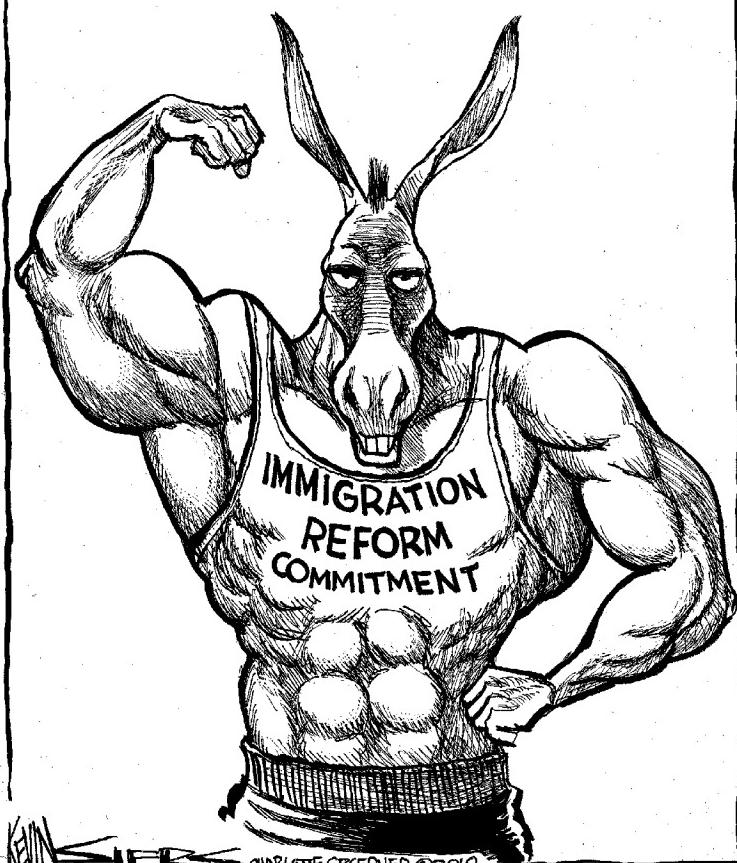
Whether the compromise worked out by Kerry, Graham and Lieberman is the right one—and whether Graham will come back on board—remains to be seen. Their package reportedly includes subsidies to gain support from energy interests, and some environmental groups worry it gives too much to polluters.

The Senate and House versions would need to be reconciled, too.

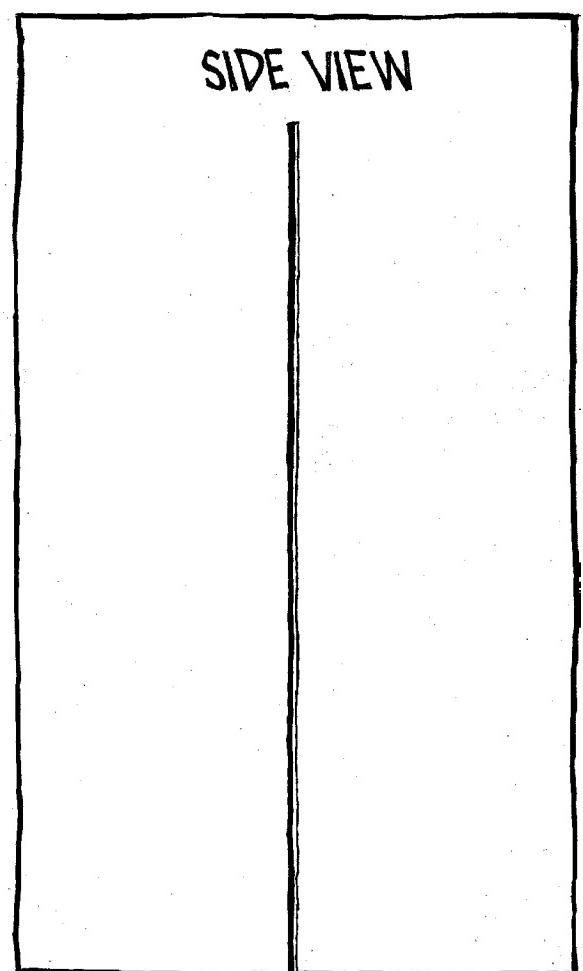
But because of the work done by Kerry, Lieberman and Graham, there's reason to believe the Senate can reach agreement on climate legislation. The same can't be said of immigration. Key players—the president, leaders in the Senate, executives who understand how limits on carbon emissions will foster innovation and job creation—should encourage Reid not to let this opportunity slip away.

PROFILING

FRONT VIEW



SIDE VIEW



Never bet the devil your head

From my little slice of the world, it seems that the smart money is taking a broader view of risk these days. I don't mean financial risk, that's old news. I mean physical risk.

A case in point is an island in the Atlantic, Bermuda, where a pal of mine works. It used to be a tame place, but they've spiced things up with what I'm told is a rash of shootings and stabbings. On one day, two guys got stabbed. Before that, a guy got shot while he was flying a kite. And, somewhere in between those days, I was told the owner of an important company there has decided to bail off the island to avoid the troubles, and, zoom, he was gone, and relocated to another, safer, place. Important people are very averse to accumulating holes in their body that they weren't born with. Rich people are like that. Go figure.

Meanwhile, in the Cayman islands, things are so violent (by Cayman standards) that they've called in the British police to help keep a lid on things.

Closer to home here in the Pacific, Thailand's social upheaval is causing much wringing of hands. I have no idea what's going to happen with that stuff, but if some of the more dire scenarios occur, you can bet that international executives are going to give the place a wide berth.

As this stuff happens, bit by bit, and in places formerly considered pretty darn safe, it becomes a conversational topic. People get more aware about it, and more sensitive to news about it. If a company doesn't want to send its executives to a locale, because the executives fear for the safety of themselves or their families, then troubled places wind up with a brain drain and a capital drain and, consequently, more troubles. O, tyranny of economics and society: A lot of spirals tend to be of the downwards variety.

By ED STEPHENS JR.
Special to the Tribune

Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday. Visit Ed at TropicalEd.com and SaipanBlog.com.



Crimes make the news (usually), but the reaction to them does not make the news. There's no use in grandstanding about things if you yank your personnel from a troubled place. You just yank them. As in many things in life, the important shifts are taking place quietly and behind the scenes.

When it comes to Saipan, the question "is it safe?" used to be, oh, maybe No. 8 on your typical list of queries. Now, from what I'm seeing, it's a question put into the top three. As long as it remains a mere question, it's probably not a big factor in this context, but this would be, for the Commonwealth, a very inauspicious time for violent crime to become a hot topic.

These risks are not easily quantified, here, or anywhere else for that matter. For example, if one drug dealer kills another drug dealer, is that a risk factor for people who aren't drug dealers? That would actually be a good question for a high school statistics class.

So here's the extra credit question: If one spouse carves up another spouse, is that a risk factor for, say, an executive who lives at the opposite end of the island and didn't even know the spouses?

See NEVER on Page 12

Letter to the Editor

Leave them alone!

In reply to Paul Beebe: Your response to my letter wandered all over the place like a drunken sailor trying to find his way back to his ship at the end of shore leave. I will not try to answer each ridiculous statement you wrote but instead I will clarify some things.

1. I do not have an "issue" with my brother. He and I did not want to sell our land—but my five sisters and my three brothers all work together on everything and that's why my brother and I agreed to sell the land.

2. Yes, I own two pieces of land in Arizona which any U.S. citizen could buy—if I wanted to sell. However, I would never sell my land to a non-citizen. Then it would cease to be U.S. land—do you understand?

3. The Chamorros do not need to be protected from themselves. They love their extended families—and they love their islands. The local government is theirs and the laws are theirs. Have someone read and explain their pledge to their flag to you and you will gain insight into these fine people.

Again, my suggestion to the Chamorro people is, "Don't sell your land to anyone who is not Chamorro."

My advice to you and Mr. Bennett is—Leave these fine people alone! Stop trying to get their land.

Franklin Keiper
Mayer, Arizona

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Letters to the Editor**An open letter regarding ARRA funding process and public benefits**

On Wednesday, at the apparent request of GTA, the Guam Legislature passed a resolution echoing GTA's displeasure about IT&E's BTOP round II grant application to establish a dedicated high speed private network to connect over 270 public safety, health and education anchor institutions throughout the Marianas. Since GTA chose not to submit its own round II application, it had no choice but to politicize the process and rush through a legislature resolution without time for notice, comment or public participation in a desperate attempt to create confusion over the evaluation process. IT&E would like to clarify the record.

GTA claims that IT&E grant would deter telecommunications competition. In fact, the resolution is a carefully crafted ploy to prevent competition by attempting to eliminate the sole round II application for government funding consideration. Recall, the last session of the 29th Legislature when GTA at the midnight hour tried to sneak Bill 391 through the Legislature, claiming it would create competition while cleverly trying to eliminate its interconnecting requirement. GTA is running the same play which makes it clear that GTA will stop at nothing to protect the interest of its private equity owners. Why else would it try to pass such resolution in virtual secrecy on the eve of another legislative session? What is GTA afraid of? Although GTA applied for round I funding, it chose not to submit an application for round II despite the requests from the government of Guam, and claims no further infrastructure is required. However, numerous government agencies in Guam and the CNMI have stated otherwise and provided letters of support to NTIA stating that they have additional requirements and support IT&E's grant application. Surprisingly, despite the fact that it did

not submit an application, the resolution now requests that NTIA provide grant funding to GTA!

We find it amazing this potentially grant-threatening resolution occurred without an adequate opportunity to address the merits and significance of the grant application. This grant represents the single greatest opportunity to improve telecommunications in the Pacific by creating a dedicated high speed private broadband network for over 270 anchor institutions serving public safety, health and education, funded substantially by the federal government. The new and advanced network would be dedicated for their exclusive use and available to them *free of charge*. Additionally, as part of the grant, IT&E would maintain the network free of charge during the grant period. Finally, as required by federal law it would also be subject to the FCC's open access requirements. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to provide critical infrastructure to the community service providers in Guam and the CNMI. It should not be jeopardized because GTA chose not to submit an application and believes no further infrastructure investments is required which, incidentally they have yet to prove with any substantive facts.

Conveniently, GTA left these arguments out of their pitch to the Legislature, as they just want to protect the value of their company. GTA say it will cost 100 jobs, whereas IT&E grant application will add an estimated 1,400-plus direct, indirect and induced jobs in the Marianas. Apparently, GTA also doesn't think Guam needs jobs or federal stimulus. In arguing that use of federal funds creates an unfair advantage, they also overlook that fact that they receive in excess of \$700,000 per month in federal subsidies. Perhaps these funds too should be shared equally amongst all telecommunication provid-

ers. Most importantly, GTA also neglects to mention that IT&E is matching more than 30 percent of the estimated project costs with in-kind and cash contributions. The majority of the \$89 million in federal funding will be directly injected into the economy of the region through construction activities (jobs) along with BGRT and exercise tax, which will be generated as a result of this project.

BTOP is a transparent federal grant program intended to stimulate the economy. Anybody could have applied for a grant to build infrastructure. The rules of the BTOP program do not allow the U.S. Department of Commerce to award grant funds to companies like GTA that did not apply for them. Enforcement of the Guam Senate resolution by NTIA, therefore, would mean that no round II infrastructure grant funding would be available for Guam and the entire Marianas, thereby depriving the public safety agencies, community colleges and other critical community institutions of new or improved high speed fiber optic connections, a huge loss for the citizens of the region.

We urge the public to not rush to judgment over fear mongering and self-serving statements of a company trying to protect its financial interest and not that of the public. Let NTIA perform its due diligence, and give IT&E grant a chance to be heard. The communities of Guam and the CNMI have so much to gain and nothing to lose. American Samoa was awarded over \$80 million in BIP funding and the Marianas should not be denied their fair share based on GTA rhetoric and lobbying efforts.

Larry Knecht

Executive vice president, IT&E

Diplomacy and fears of Article XII

He who has learned to disagree without being disagreeable has discovered the most valuable secret of a diplomat. I'm sharing this secret because diplomacy is truly needed to fix Article XII. When people ask me if I am pro or against Article XII, I tell them "yes" to both and they wonder how can that be until I explain. To date, everyone I have done this with is in total agreement that finding the middle ground for both sides to come together is the best solution to Article XII. Fighting and building arguments based on fear is not the solution. Diplomacy is the best tool in the political toolbox for fixing Article XII, especially if you want it fixed right.

Most of the pro-Article XII concerns are actually based on fear. The pro-Article XII people are afraid the people in the CNMI will end up like many Hawaiians who now can't afford to live in their own city. Fear that outsiders will come in and buy up everything. Fear that somehow the culture is going to fly away because there are different landowners. Then there are the complaints that Japan and other countries don't share their land with outsiders and a list of other nonsense concerns that are based on self-aggrandizement for locals only, which social scientists have labeled social imperialism.

The solutions to all the fears of those who don't want to change Article XII is education. Article XII implies that local people are not smart enough to manage their own land, which is why the decision was taken away by Article XII. Education has proven to be the most influential force in the arsenal for countering bad choices and the power of greed. If we are truly an educated people and know about Hawaii then we should learn how to deal with a free enterprise system for land. It was not investors who took advantage of the Hawaiians, it was *greed* with no vision of the consequences and the inability to put money aside and invest for the future when they made the land deals.

The Hawaiians weren't educated about the dynamics and economics. They didn't realize that with the sale of land they had a responsibility *not* to spend all those millions at one time and save or invest the money for their future generations in the absence of land. This lesson in responsibility should have been learned from Hawaii and from re-

Peaceful coexistence

With Mother's Day just around the corner and my family's safety upmost in this Mom's mind, I feel it necessary to respond to recent letters to the Editor regarding bicycles.

Walkers, bike riders, joggers, casual strollers and others can all safely use the Beach Road Pathway, and all other sidewalks if they just use common courtesy as their rule. Bikers can avoid slower walkers and can 'toot' their horn or just give a little verbal warning as they approach from behind. Walkers can move over or at least be aware that joggers are moving faster than they are and one or both can simply give way to each other for a moment. Smile and wave; it feels good.

There is no need to force the alternative. Neither bikers nor joggers

cent mega-sales in the CNMI that made people millionaires overnight. None of these millionaires tried to make more millions, which violated the rules of a free enterprise system. They ended the flow of continuous returns by not investing to continue making money. In a capitalistic free enterprise system, the basic economic law is either you work or you make your money work for you.

The concern about outsiders owning land won't make any sense if people are educated. Outsiders can't come in and buy up everything if everything is not for sale! Duh! But private landowners' rights to free enterprise and the right of every citizen to buy must be granted if Article XII is to stand the test of time. The indigenous people just need to be educated about the free enterprise system and the horrors of greed. Greed is the true enemy of the people when it comes to the selling of land, not teachers and professionals who only want a house and lot and maybe a business to fulfill their American dream in the CNMI.

I have heard people and some of our political leaders saying the "*culture will die if land is sold to U.S. citizens.*" That is the most ridiculous statement ever made about Article XII. The preservation of any culture is education with practice and it has very little to do with land. Indigenous people on the mainland have continued to practice their culture and language even though they are on the other side of the world. Our politicians even visit these groups of indigenous people to get votes when they have their annual get-togethers. If the indigenous people can continue to preserve their culture in the mainland then certainly it can be done in the CNMI regardless of who owns the house and lot next to you! Don't fall for this outright lie as it is merely a ploy to play upon the passion you have for your culture; it's called manipulation.

The comparisons made about Japan and other countries that don't share their land are very misleading. If you examine the details you will find that Japan, Malaysia and other Southeast Asian countries don't share their land because they don't have to. The size of the workforce in these countries is more than adequate to fulfill their workforce needs, unlike the CNMI which needs other people from outside to have a completely functional workforce. The CNMI needs

nor walkers should be subjected to the high speed vehicular traffic out there on the open road. When that 4,000-pound car runs over the 80 pound child there is no doubt as to who the 'winner' will be.

Let's all use the pathways and walkways and sidewalks courteously together. Better yet, let's all band together and lobby our local legislators for more and better paths, paved and on the dirt so that we can all enjoy the beauty of our island as we pedal, walk or jog along. We residents will all be safer and happier and our tourist guests will have one more reason to come and enjoy Saipan.

Olive Bateman
Tanapag, Saipan

the help of other U.S. citizens like me and we know it is wrong to ask for a person's help and in the same breath discriminate against them. If all outsiders were *not* citizens, then Article XII might have more validity but we know that is not the case. So we can't compare apples and oranges, which is what we are doing when it comes to the CNMI and other independent nations.

Finally, there are the personal fears that somehow a son or daughter is going to be left out and won't own any land. Well, that is a personal problem and not a problem for everyone in the CNMI. Parents leave things for their children all the time, hoping they will hold on to it but that's all you can do—hope. You can't take the land with you and watch over it once you are dead, so educate your children on what you want and expect and then pray. If you can't manage your property and manipulate it to your satisfaction for present and future needs then you should get educated or see a professional for help. But don't try to make a blanket law to make decisions for everyone like Article XII has done. Presently the indigenous people are being forced to marry within the culture to keep their land and to only sell within the culture—the *absence of choice*. Choice is the ultimate expression of freedom.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

NEVER

From Page 10

It's the random victimization that worries people, but it's hard to disaggregate that stuff from the usual breed of crime statistics, or at least the ones I've seen.

Two years ago a couple of knuckleheads tried to mug me in an Asian city, which was one of their dumber moves, but you never forget that sort of thing, and I've mentioned it to everyone I know who has thought about going there on business, just as a general warning. And, though it was hardly the incident of the decade, I have to admit that I'll try to avoid going back to that city. Is that a rational response? I don't know. But the aversion is very strong nonetheless.

While I'm being a fuddy-duddy about safety, I'll mention one aspect of it that too often goes overlooked by the international traveler set: Car crashes. Some places in the world are absolute meat grinders on the highway. I've known of people from Saipan who wound up on the wrong side of this bargain when they traveled, sometimes with really gruesome consequences.

Hopefully, Saipan will stay on the "safe" list when people think about us. But there is a bit of paranoia in the air these days, and I don't know if, or when, the world will settle back into its peaceful torpor. I know I haven't settled back into mine yet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 78
Palau	Partly Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 78
Yap	Sunny	▲ 90 ▼ 76
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 82 ▼ 77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Kosrae	Rain	▲ 87 ▼ 80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 83 ▼ 78

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲ 68 ▼ 62
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 70 ▼ 50
Hong Kong	Showers	▲ 74 ▼ 69
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲ 83 ▼ 72
London	Showers	▲ 56 ▼ 50
Los Angeles	Windy	▲ 67 ▼ 48
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 91 ▼ 84
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲ 70 ▼ 55
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 82 ▼ 71
New York	Windy	▲ 68 ▼ 48
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲ 63 ▼ 51
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 67 ▼ 50
Pusan	Windy	▲ 63 ▼ 47
Rome	Sunny	▲ 73 ▼ 52
Salem	Showers	▲ 55 ▼ 40
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲ 54 ▼ 46
Seoul	Sunny	▲ 60 ▼ 43
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲ 65 ▼ 51
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲ 72 ▼ 55

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
2:51 AM	Today	Low Tide: 1.0 Feet
7:49 AM	Today	High Tide: 2.0 Feet
3:09 PM	Today	Low Tide: 0.5 Feet
10:06 PM	Today	High Tide: 1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Sunrise/Sunset			Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	5:54 AM	6:34 PM	Today	8:19 PM	6:53 AM
Saturday	5:54 AM	6:35 PM	Saturday	9:16 PM	7:47 AM
Sunday	5:54 AM	6:35 PM	Sunday	10:10 PM	8:42 AM
Monday	5:53 AM	6:35 PM	Monday	10:59 PM	9:37 AM
Tuesday	5:53 AM	6:35 PM	Tuesday	11:43 PM	10:30 AM

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PICTURES

■ ISLAND SNAPSHTOS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

■ BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

■ BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

■ SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

■ TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

■ ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 7, 2010

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM				GUAM-ROTA (ROP)			
C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5	C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily	C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily	C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	5:55am	8:35am	Daily	DL290	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
DL297	3:35pm	6:15pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
0Z608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	0Z607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
0Z604	2:20am	6:10am	1	0Z605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
0Z604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	0Z603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	0Z603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6	FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6	CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
0Z604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN	0Z704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
0Z604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7				via ICN
				0Z706/607	3:35am	2:20am+1	4, 7 via PUS
				C0890/9606	1		

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BEVERAGE BEVERAGE BEVERA

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PRODUCE PRODUCE PRODUCE

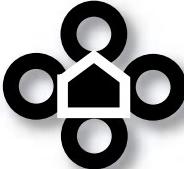
HITE BEER \$15.99 CASE	OB BEER \$16.99 CASE	NATURAL ICE \$17.99 CASE	ONION RINGS 2 FOR \$1.50	SHRIMP CHIP 2 FOR \$1.50	CHOCO PIE \$2.99 /BOX	FRESH KIMCHEE \$3.49 150T	POTATOES 59¢ /LB.	ONION 49¢ /LB.
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Letter to the Editor

My two cents on Article 12

These are only my own opinion on this matter and just want to vent my frustration. I am not looking to debate or trade long drawn-out responses or defend myself on this issue with anyone, I am just expressing my thoughts.

Lately, the issue of Article 12 has been bouncing back and forth in the local media circuit and backyard lawyers, misguided locals, and out of touch young generation that seem to have a great solution to the problem. It's really frustrating to read on the *Saipan Tribune* or *Marianas Variety* how everyone is trying to or have a solution to fix Article 12.

Here is what I ask myself: What's broken? With the total landmass for the CNMI, can we really afford to open Article 12 up to everyone? My answer to that is nothing is wrong with Article 12; it is serving its intention. This particular article was written to protect the people of the CNMI from becoming another Guam or Hawaii mistake. Our leaders had anticipated that we as CNMI residents would struggle as our Guamanian and Hawaiian brothers/sisters had and wanted to make sure that it does not happen here.

I think that today's young generations really don't get it! They don't understand what it is to be from the CNMI. They have all been Westernized and spoiled. The next generations will be worse, growing up without fully understanding the true meaning of culture, respect for our land (what little land that we have available to us) and the pride to be indigenous from the CNMI. This is the same land that has provided a home and nutrition to your family and the genera-

tions before you. If you don't get it yet, it only means that you know squat!

Consider this: In the U.S. mainland, anyone who can afford to buy a house can do so. Why? Because of the abundance of available land/property in each and every state. Remember, the CNMI is only a group of *small islands*; it is not the U.S. mainland or any other large continent that can accommodate a large population and still be able to provide for their indigenous population.

On the islands, our land is very important and precious. We should not just throw it or give it away. Once it's gone, it's gone! Remember that anyone *can* buy property here in the States but you will still have to pay your annual property taxes even after you have paid off the mortgage, and Uncle Sam may want a piece too—a big difference between the U.S. mainland and the CNMI. This may be what a lot of U.S. mainlanders want by amending Article 12.

When politics gets involved or becomes a part of their platform on this issue: 1. Some of them think that they are doing what the people want. (Which people?) 2. Some of them think it is the right thing to do. (For whom?) 3. Some of them don't care if the island is not preserved for the local people (as Article 12 intended). 4. Some are only looking at the next election (free ride). 5. And some are just looking at the money and not the culture or the future of the next generation.

I do sympathize for those that want but cannot own land in the CNMI; the reality is really there is just not enough to go around. The entire island is only

about 6 miles wide and about 15 mile long (and the government has given all the prime lots/properties to businesses already). Illustrating what the Georgia congressman was envisioning, the CNMI is only but a tiny dot on the world map!

Once we open Article 12, my fear is that: 1. Foreigners (not U.S. citizens) will expand control of businesses and own prime property (like Guam or Hawaii) that should have been available or passed on to the next generation. (It is bad enough that this is already happening through loopholes such as long-term leases.) 2. Greed for some locals to make a quick buck and not thinking about their kids' or grandkids' future. Look what happened in the 1980s (what a shame) 3. The division of family that may ultimately lead to destruction for the next generation (family suing family for land rights). 4. Increase of drugs use, crime and prostitution (this problem already exists, why quadruple it?). The bottom line to Article 12 for the CNMI is that there is just not a lot of land for everyone that wants to own one. I do support the open market of landownership extended to U.S. citizens that want to make the CNMI their home (if *only* the CNMI was the size of Rhode Island, Hawaii or better yet Texas) but with the growing population of the local residents on the islands, space availability is critical and preservation for them should be guaranteed as a right. Again, if it is not broken, don't fix it!

Greg Deleon Guerrero
Staten Island, New York



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Fitial and Camacho slam Guam Legislature resolution

Resolution 352-30, passed by the Guam Legislature, called for the federal government to avoid awarding ARRA funds to a single entity. IT&E was the sole applicant that was awarded \$8 million in the first round of funding for the Broadband Technology Program under the ARRA out of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The award of IT&E prompted officials of the Guam Telephone Authority to contest the award and make attempts to discredit IT&E's subsequent application for funding in the amount of \$89 million. GTA's attempts were solidified by the Guam Legislature's resolution, which severely hampers IT&E's application.

The resolution has drawn criticism from CNMI Gov. Benigno R. Fitial. "The Guam Legislature's resolution severely places our region's well-being at risk.

It is disheartening to know that an applicant is being singled out because of their attempts to secure the advancement of our region. The public presentations for BTOP applications are being held today, allowing the CNMI



Fitial



Camacho

that no ARRA money is needed in our region unless it can be equally split among all companies, even those that did not invest the time and resources to pursue this funding. I think the resolution's untimely passage

does nothing more than damage the credibility of any application that comes out of the region, not just Guahan," said Fitial.

Gov. Felix

Camacho supported Fitial's viewpoint and shares in his disappointment at the passage of the Legislature's resolution. "I agree that the message sent on behalf of the people of Guahan by this resolution is damaging.

Governor Fitial's position to let the public hear the merit of the proposals by those who applied and be able to comment and ask questions is the best course of action. In a joint effort to ensure equity and fairness, as well as secure what is in the best interest of our region, the applicants for round two of the BTOP funding will be presenting their proposals to the public. Although the presentations will be hosted on Saipan, the Guahan public will be able to join in and ask questions via video teleconferencing," said Camacho.

To ensure objectivity when providing support to private sec-

tor applicants who have applied for ARRA funding, the CNMI has requested all applicants to make public presentations of their applications. Each application is then subject to questions from a panel of evaluators and the general public. This information is then taken back to the government for consideration on how to rank each of the applications and express the level of support for each applicant. Their recommendations are then forwarded to the federal grantor for review.

During the first round of the BTOP funding, the CNMI held public presentations for IT&E,

Docomo Pacific, and the Northern Marianas College. For the second round of funding, the CNMI has required the same presentations; however hosted it through VTC to include the Guam public.

The presentations were made to the CNMI and Guam public yesterday, April 29, from 5pm to 7pm. The Guahan VTC was made available at the small conference room of the Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor's Complex. The applicants that presented were IT&E, the University of Hawaii, and the Pacific Islander Community Access Network. (PR)

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Tents & Drinks

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- Rep. Ralph S. Demapan
- Rep. Ramon S. Basa
- Sen. Pete P. Reyes
- Rep. Ray N. Yumul
- Rep. Eliceo D. Cabrera

Booth Exhibitors

- ChaCha Oceanview Jr. High School Book Lovers Club (Scholastic Booksale)

 COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Freshmen Orientation at MHS set

To all parents and legal guardians of Marianas High School students: Marianas High School will be holding its Freshmen Orientation on Saturday, May 1, 2010 from 9am to 12pm at the MHS Gymnasium. All incoming 9th grade students to MHS are asked to attend.

During this orientation, parents and students will participate in campus tours, will meet the teachers, and will follow the class schedule of your child. After visiting all of your child's classes and teachers, Marianas High School will provide lunch in the cafeteria. During lunch, we will be taking photographs for your child's school identification card to be distributed in September.

All parents/legal guardians of incoming 9th grade students are invited to attend with their child this important Freshmen Orientation. For more information, call 237-3206. (PR)

Radio talk show to feature Taimanao

Senate Fiscal Affairs chair Jovita M. Taimanao will be special guest on Marianas Agupa this Saturday, April 30, 2010, from 10am to 11am on Magic 100.3 FM, to discuss the Senate version of Basa's austerity bill. Listeners of the talk show are encouraged to call in at 234-5929 and participate in the discussion.

The Chamorro Talk Show Program is hosted by Glenn H. Manglona, with a special guest host, former mayor Joseph S.

Inos. The talk show airs every Saturday from 9am to 11am. The show also features a special report from Rota with correspondent and commentator Thomas D. Mendiola and a report from Tinian by correspondent and radio commentator David M. Cing. Simultaneous Internet streaming via www.magic100radio.com will be available. For more information, e-mail marianasagupa@gmail.com. (PR)

House committee sets public hearing

The House Committee on Natural Resources will conduct a public hearing on Monday, May 3, 2010 at 6:30pm at the House of Representative chamber on Capital Hill, Saipan, and on Tuesday, May 4, at 6:30pm

at the Garapan Elementary School cafeteria.

The hearings will take up:

- H.B. 17-07: To create the 2nd Marianas Political Status Commission

- H.B. 17-38: Nuclear and Chemical Free Zone Amendment Act of 2010

- H.B. 17-47: Legalization of Marijuana Act of 2010

The following witness are requested to be present and provide written comments prior to the public hearing: Mayors of Saipan and Northern Islands; Commissioner, Department of Public Safety; Commissioner, Public School System; president Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Members of the public are encouraged to submit written comments three days prior to the public hearing. Contact the

Office of Rep. Teresita A. Santos, if you have any questions about this public hearing and fax comments to (670) 664-8813. (PR)

Red flags up on 2 Saipan beaches, 1 Tinian beach

The Division of Environment Quality has raised the red flag on the DPW Channel Bridge and Garapan Beach drainage on Saipan and on the Taga Beach on Tinian and is warning the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from these locations were found to contain concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceed the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's beaches and storm drainage every Wednesday. This week, DEQ took samples from 10 sites on Tinian. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (DEQ)

Military training on FDM next week

The U.S Navy will be conducting military training on Farallon de Mendenilla and the W-517 next week. The public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators, are warned to stay away from these areas on the times and dates indicated.

On Farallon de Mendenilla, there will be a 393 EBS military training on May 3, 2010, from 8am to 8pm.

There will also be an HSC-25 military training on May 4-5, from 8am to 4pm at W-517, an irregular polygon compromising of 14,000 nautical miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extend south-southwest in international waters and Farallon de Mendenilla. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missile and laser exercise. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa and Galvez bank.

For more information, contact the Emergency Management Office's Operations Section at telephone numbers 322-9528 and 322-9529, VHF Marine CHNL 16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0 or dial CNMI 211. (EMO)

Kagman High sets Junior Night

To all parents/guardians of Kagman High School students, Junior Night is set for May 11, 2010, from 5pm to 7pm at the KHS Cafeteria. If you have any questions, call 237-3840, ask for Mr. Cabrera or Mrs. Sablan. (KHS)

Koblerville group to host beautification project

The Koblerville Commu-

nity Coalition Neighborhood Watch Group will be performing its first Koblerville Beautification and Crime Prevention Project on Saturday, May 15, 2010, at the Koblerville runway (old airport field behind Tottotville), from 10am to 3pm. Volunteers are needed for this project. Call Rose T. Ada-Hocog at 287-0818 for more information. (PR)

Taste of the Marianas kicks off tomorrow

The first Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival and Beer Garden will be held Saturday, May 1, at the American Memorial Park, beginning at 6pm, as part of Tourism Month events. For more information, contact the Marianas Visitors Authority at 1.670.664.3200/1 or e-mail Ed Diaz of the MVA at ediaz@mymarianas.com. (MVA)

Democrat reunion postponed

The Democrat reunion gathering originally scheduled for April 30 at the Minachom AtDAO has been postponed until further notice. (PR)

OPA staff on Tinian today

Staff of the Office of the Public Auditor will be on Tinian today, April 30 to notarize and accept last-minute filings of financial disclosure statements from government officials. Filers on Tinian may visit the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission conference room from 9am to 4:30pm. All filers must bring with them some form of photo ID, such as a driver's license or a passport. Failure to do so may result in the denial of notary services. For any inquiries or comments, contact OPA at 322-6481 or 6482. (OPA)

SVES registration schedule

San Vicente Elementary School registration for school year 2010-2011 will begin on May 24, 2010, from 9am to 12pm and from 1pm to 4pm in the school's main office.

For kindergarten enrollees, the child must be 5 years on or before Aug. 31, 2005, as per BOE policy. Date of birth: between Sept. 1, 2004 and Aug. 31, 2005.

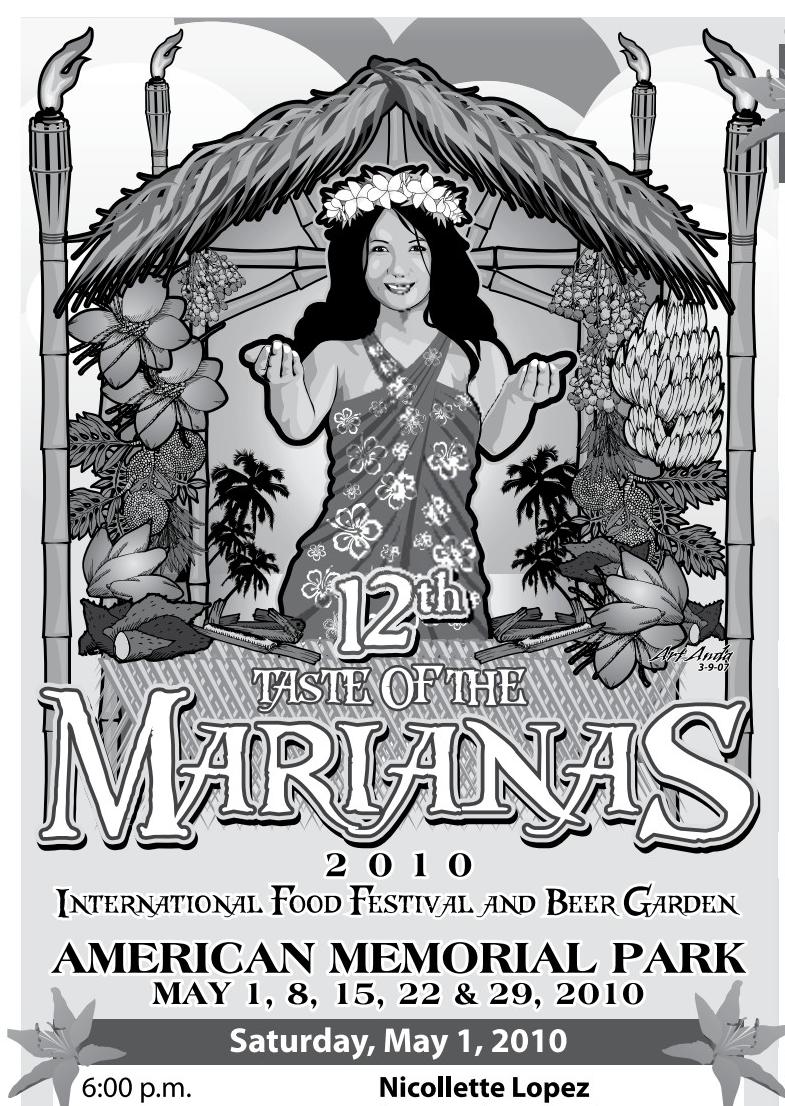
Registration requirements: Birth certificate or passport, health certificate, health/accident insurance, map of residential location, power of attorney/legal guardianship (if applicable), copy of report card, unofficial transcript with the address and phone number of the last school attended.

- Kindergarten: May 24-28, 2010

- 1st-3rd grade: June 1-4

- 4th-6th grade: June 7-11

All newcomers must bring the necessary documents above. Should you have any questions, contact 237-3791. (PR)



12th TASTE OF THE MARIANAS 2010
INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL AND BEER GARDEN
AMERICAN MEMORIAL PARK
MAY 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2010

Saturday, May 1, 2010

6:00 p.m.	Nicollette Lopez (National Anthem)
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Tropikool Blendz Band
7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	Pua Hinano
8:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Maika'i Band
9:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	Chamolinian Warriors
9:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	Inatus Cultural Dancers

Booth Decorating Competition

6:00 p.m. start - awards at 8:30 at the competition stage

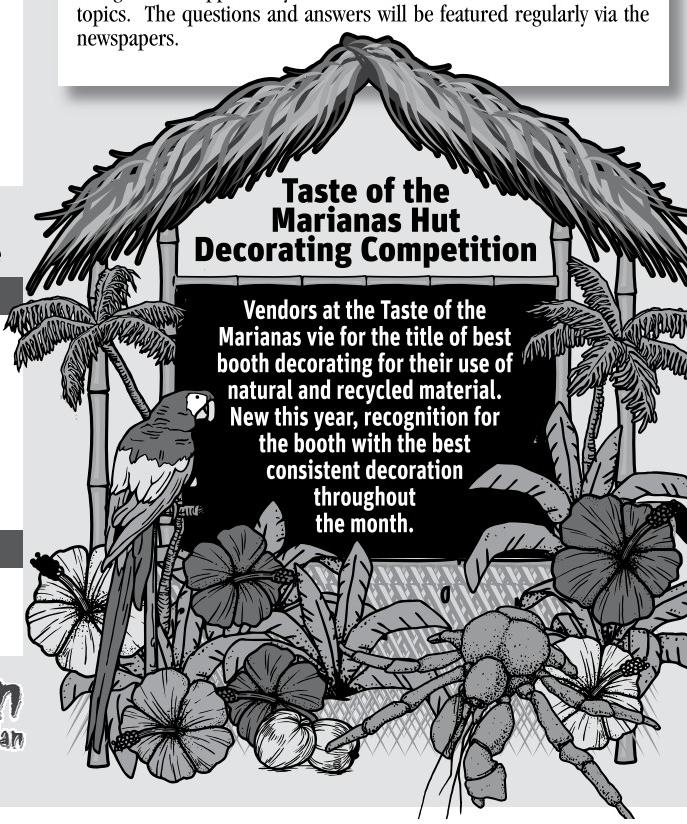
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9. D'Elegance Cafe
10. Herman's Modern Bakery
11. Hula Girl/3's
12. Thai House Restaurant
13. Poon's Restaurant
14. Ty & Tia
15. Palms Resort Hotel

Beer Garden Vendors

- Pacific Trading Company
- MARPAC
- Northern Marianas Bartender Association

For more information contact the Marianas Visitors Authority at telephone numbers (670) 664-3200/01.


Koblerville group to host beautification project

The Koblerville Commu-

G4S Security donates \$5,000 to NMC Foundation

In a show of support for the development and expansion of higher education in the CNMI, G4S Security Services recently donated \$5,000 to the Northern Marianas College Foundation.

"It is with great pleasure that we come out and support

the NMC Foundation's efforts to ensure the continuous growth of higher education in the CNMI," said Moises Pangelinan, G4S Security operations manager.

The donation was presented in support of the recently-held 8th Annual NMC Foundation Golf Open, which is organized by the NMC Foundation. The tournament, the organization's signature event, aimed to raise critical funds to support NMC's academic programs and services.

"G4S Security's sizable donation will, indeed, go a long way in our mission to establish windows of educational opportunities for students of NMC," said NMC Foundation president Ben Babauta.

The golf tournament was



File photo shows a vendor displaying a variety of barbecue food items for sale at the 2009 Northern Marianas College Charter Day celebration. This year's NMC Charter Day celebration will take place on Friday, May 7, 2010 at the NMC field and gymnasium.

NMC Charter Day Committee extends deadline for vendors

The Northern Marianas College Charter Day Committee is inviting different agencies, businesses, clubs, and other civic organizations to participate in the upcoming Charter Day celebration. Organizations may purchase booth spaces for the following categories: food/drinks, specialty drinks (e.g. coffee coolers or pearl shakes), and retail (arts and crafts, toys, etc). The deadline to submit applications for booth spaces has been extended to Monday, May 3, 2010.

The Charter Day Celebration will be held on Friday, May 7, 2010, at the NMC field and gymnasium from 4pm to 10pm. The event is one of NMC's largest and most-at-

tended events. This year, the celebration will showcase a broad range of entertainment, including a variety of live band performances, cultural dance presentations, and highly anticipated competitions, such as Marianas Idol, Charter Day Dance Crew Competition, and the Battle of the Bands.

The booth fee for food/drink vendors is \$150 and for non-food/drink vendors is \$100. The booth fee must be paid in order to reserve booth space. Applications may be picked up at the NMC Bookstore (Building E), or can be downloaded online at www.nmcnet.edu.

For additional information, contact Alaysha Muna at 234-5498 Ext. 1300 or e-mail alaysham@nmcnet.edu. (NMC)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NMC Foundation president Ben Babauta, center, receives a check for \$5,000 from G4S Security Services operations manager Moises Pangelinan, left. Also in photo is G4S Security business development manager Tony Gomez.

held this past Saturday, April 24, 2010, at the Saipan Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort in Kagman.

Close to 150 golfers met on the

links and competed for over \$100,000 in prizes. (NMC)

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Limit 10 contestants

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To Enter

Print the following:

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on an 8.5x11 sheet of paper and submit to Dickerson & Quinn offices, CTSI Building, Sister Remedios Drive, Lower Base, Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm. All contestants will be required to sign the Official Rules upon entering the contest. Each contestant may enter only one recipe for one of the following categories: original appetizer, casserole, stew, stir-fry, salad or sandwich. Each recipe entry must use at least one 12-ounce can from the SPAM® family of products (any variety). Last daytime to submit entry forms and recipes is Monday, May 10, 2010 at 5pm.

4. Each participating contestant will be given a SPAM™ T-shirt.

Contestants are encouraged to wear the T-shirt during each competition.

5. Contestants must bring their dish for judging by 6:30pm on May 15, 2010. Any dishes brought in after 6:30pm will be disqualified. Judging will begin promptly at 7:00pm. Final heating, cooking and presentation preparation may be done at the contest site. Power outlets will be provided. Contestants must bring all required preparation materials such as warming plates, crock pots, etc. The individual who entered the contest must be present at the judging of their dish. Entries will be judged on the basis of taste, originality and overall presentation. Dickerson & Quinn and the Marianas Visitors Authority will choose the judges.

6. A first, second and third place winner will be selected. The first place winner will receive \$150 cash plus a \$150 SPAM™ gift basket. The second place winner will receive \$50 cash plus a \$100 SPAM™ gift basket. The third place winner will receive a \$50 SPAM™ gift basket.

Categories

Each contestant may enter only one recipe in one of the following categories:

- original appetizer
- casserole
- stew
- stir-fry
- salad
- sandwich

Each recipe entry must use at least one 12-ounce can of the SPAM® family of products.

Prizes

Prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners.

1st place prize
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2nd place prize
\$50 cash plus a \$100 SPAM™ Gift Basket

3rd place prize
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Precinct III lawmakers host first village meeting

Saipan's Precinct III representatives held their first village meeting on Wednesday, April 21, at the Garapan Central Park. Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro, Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation chair Ramon Tebuteb, and representatives Francisco Dela Cruz, Edmund Villagomez and Ray Yumul welcomed their constituents and expressed the importance of holding such meetings.

According to Ogumoro, "This village meeting allows residents of Precinct III to express their views, opinions, and recommendations, as well as to raise objections and questions on legislative issues and other matters that are of concern and interest to them."

Also in attendance were Saipan Mayor Donald Flores,

Commerce Secretary Michael Ada, Commonwealth Utilities Corp. deputy director Abe Malaie, and Workforce Investment Agency director Edith Deleon Guerrero. Each gave a brief summary of their accomplishments to date, and were available to address concerns relating to their specific office.

For the convenience of Precinct III residents, booths were set up by staff and representatives of the Division of Youth Services, Workforce Investment Agency, Northern Marianas Trades Institute, Northern Marianas College, SHEFA and the CNMI Scholarship Office.

The audience was invited to participate in the discussion, ask questions and provide information necessary for the represen-

tatives to consider. One issue brought up was dangerous road conditions in China Town. Also raised and deliberated were concerns of unemployment on the island. Precinct III residents in attendance shared that the village meeting was informative and productive, and encouraged their representatives to hold future village meetings.

"We would like to thank those who attended and also would like to inform the residents of Precinct III that we will be keeping you informed on the date of the next village meeting," said Ogumoro. "Currently we would like to see that we meet with our constituents on a quarterly basis to address their concerns and update them on our work in progress as well as our accom-

plishments. Additionally, we are thankful for the assistance from

the different agencies that collaborated with us to make this event possible for our constituents." (PR)

Camacho weighs in on IT&E, GTA dispute; backs local biz

U.S. Congress Delegate candidate Joseph Norita Camacho was disappointed and disagreed with the Guam Legislature's resolution requesting the National Telecommunications and Information Administration not to award BTOP ARRA funds to the sole telecommunications applicant who applied for funding in the Marianas region.

"I support our local CNMI businesses and applaud them for seeking alternative ways of fund-

ing as offered through the federal government. The CNMI should receive its fair share of ARRA funding, whether through grants to local government authorities or to local private companies. The leaders of Guam should support the CNMI and by extension CNMI businesses



Camacho

tion companies, non-profit organizations and universities, who applied in the CNMI for Round

2 BTOP funding. These private grants provide jobs to our CNMI community and bring in much needed tax revenue through BGRT and Excise taxes."

"It is important for NTIA to understand that the Guam Legislature does not speak for the people of the CNMI or the entire Marianas region. We ask NTIA to look past the comments of the Guam Legislature and that of GTA and review the applications based upon their merits and not the political climate in Guam during an election year." (PR)

NMI, Guam employers named semi-finalists for DoD's Freedom Award

Two Guam and CNMI employers were selected as semifinalists for the 2010 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award.

There were a total of 13 nominations from Guam and the CNMI. Of those nominations, the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter and the Unified Judiciary of Guam were selected as semifinalists, or Top 131 Employers in the Nation. A total of 2,470 employers were nominated nationwide.

The Freedom Award is the highest award given to employers by the U.S. Government to honor exceptional support of employees serving in the National Guard and Reserve. This year marks the 15th anniversary of the award which was instituted in 1996 by the National Committee for Employer Support of the

Guard and Reserve, or ESGR.

ESGR, is a DOD agency established in 1972 under the auspices of the Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs. The mission of ESGR is to gain and maintain active support from all public and private employers for the men and women of the National Guard and Reserve by recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of the law, and resolving conflicts through informal mediation.

The finalists, or Top 35 Employers in the Nation, will be selected by July, with the announcement of the National Freedom Award winners, or Top 15 Employers in the Nation, sometime in August. Those winners will be personally presented their awards by the Secretary of Defense in Washington, D.C. this September. (ESGR)



The Division of Youth Services under the Department of Community & Cultural Affairs, would like to acknowledge the following for their contribution to the

"Parent Leadership & Child Abuse Awareness activities"

- Hon. Governor Benigno R. Fitial
- Office of the Governor
- Hon. Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos
- Hon. Judge Perry Inos
- Cong. George N. Camacho
- Cong. Ramon Basa
- Cong. Diego T. Benavente
- Cong. Joseph M. Palacios
- Cong. Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero
- Mr. & Mrs. John Dela Cruz
- Sen. Luis P. Crisostimo
- Sen. Pete P. Reyes
- Cong. Ray Yumul
- Parent Leadership Committee Members.
- Saipan Mayor's Office
- Penina B. Magofna
- Hon. Mayor Donald Flores
- REACH Program
- Parents Anonymous (Saipan, Tinian, Rota)
- Youth Congress
- Div. of Parks & Recreation
- Cong. Felicidad T. Ogumoro
- Cong. Sylvestre Iguel
- Cong. Edmund S. Villagomez
- Green Meadow Dance Crew
- Parker Yobei
- Inatuanas
- Project Impact
- Refaluwash Boys
- DPCP
- NMC CREES (4H)
- NMC CREES
- CNMI WIC Program
- Little Darlings Early Childhood
- Family Violence Task Force/Domestic Violence
- CGC Tobacco Prevention
- Pacific Home Health Care
- Center for Living Independently in the CNMI
- AYUDA Network Inc.
- Division of Youth Services
- Cong. Ray Tebuteb
- Dept. of Public Safety
- Dept. of Community & Cultural Affairs
- CHAMPS
- Bolis R Us
- Max Fun House
- Sugar Shack
- Korason De Maria Chapel CCD Parents



40TH ANNIVERSARY

Happy 40th anniversary to Greg and Evelyn Calvo, a wonderful mom and dad, grandma and grandpa, for 40 wonderful years of love, friendship and happiness. We love you so very much. From your children and grandchildren!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday to our boys, Andy John "AJ", who is celebrating his 10th birthday on May 1, and belated greetings to Riley James "RJ", who celebrated his 6th birthday on April 25. We love you! Greetings come from Mommy, Auntie Mo' and the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



**WE ACCEPT
WIC PROGRAM
AND
FOODSTAMP**

Sara Market II

CAPITOL HILL • 322-9596

Mother's Day Special

APRIL 30 TO MAY 10, 2010 • WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

SHOP & LEAVE TOTALLY COMPLETE

FOOD STAMPS WELCOME • FRIENDLY SERVICE • EVERYDAY LOW PRICE
SELECTED ITEMS ARE LIMITED PER CUSTOMER • PRICES CHANGES WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

Leg Quarter
22 LBS. \$15⁹⁹
3 days only (04/30 - 05/2) \$14⁹⁹
33 LBS. \$20⁹⁹
LIMIT 1 \$19⁹⁹

Whole Chicken
LIMIT 1 CASE
3 days only (04/30 - 05/2) \$32⁹⁹
\$33⁹⁹

Young Spare Ribs
10 LBS.
\$16⁹⁹

Pork Spareribs
BBQ Adobo Cut
20 LBS.
\$14⁹⁹

Beef Back Spare
Ribs
20 LBS.
\$22⁹⁹

Turkey Tail
20 lbs.
3 days only (04/30 - 05/2) \$14⁹⁹
\$15⁹⁹

Mackerel
PACIFIC 22.4 LBS.
PIKE (uneven weight per case) \$22⁹⁹
\$12⁹⁹/LB.

NORBEST YOUNG TURKEY
\$15⁹⁹/POUND

Chorizos
4 lbs. 64 oz.
\$24⁹⁹

SEOK SU Dynamic Fresh
500ml. x 20
\$5⁹⁹/CASE

Jasmine Lotus Rice
50 LBS. (LIMIT 1) \$25⁹⁹
\$24⁹⁹ 3 days only (04/30 - 05/2)

Diamond G Calrose
Rice 50 LBS. (LIMIT 1)
\$29⁹⁹ \$26⁹⁹ 3 days only (04/30 - 05/2)

Marukiyo Rice Cracker
100pcs.
\$89⁹⁹

Sapporo Ichiban
21pcs./case (LIMIT 1)
\$8⁹⁹/CASE

Tasters Choice Pouch 8 oz.
\$6⁹⁹

Springfield Dried Beans or Peas - 16oz.
50% OFF

FROZEN MEAT • SEAFOOD • PRODUCE • GROCERIES

Gusto Ham
10 lbs. \$15⁹⁹
Bar-S Ham
10 lbs. \$16⁹⁹

Miller Sausage
5 lbs. \$14⁹⁵

Chamorro Sausage
Reg/Hot 1 lb. \$4⁴⁹

Bar-S Bacon
1 lb. \$2⁷⁹

Spam 12 oz.
LIMIT 6 ALL FLAVORS
\$2²⁹

Black Label Luncheon Meat 12 oz. (Limit 6)
\$1³⁹

Libby's & Armour Vienna Sausage 5 oz.
69¢

Beach Cliff Sardines 3.75 oz.
89¢

Ox & Palm Corned Beef 11.5 oz. LIMIT 6
\$2²⁹

Bar-S Hotdog
1 lb. \$1⁰⁹

Sea Port Crab Stickies Imitation 16 oz.
\$1⁹⁹

Ground Beef
5 LBS. \$9⁹⁹ 10 LBS. \$16⁹⁹

Bar-S Hotlinks 24 oz.
\$3⁹⁹

Hormel Mary Kitchen Corned Beef Hash 15 oz.
\$1⁹⁹

Hormel Chili No Beans 15 oz.
\$1⁷⁹

DM Beef Stew 15 oz.
\$1⁷⁹

Master A1 Tuna 7 oz.
99¢ Limit 12
3 Diamond Tuna \$1¹⁹ Limit 12
Hornel Corned Beef 12 oz. \$2¹⁹

Mackarel Family Bag
\$5⁹⁹

Peeled Shrimp SC Brand 1 lb. \$2⁹⁹

Seafood Mix Log Feng Brand 1 lb. \$2⁵⁹

Blue Crab Section Per Box
\$8⁹⁵

Sun Flower Mackarel 15 oz.
\$1⁵⁹

Campbells Chicken Noodle Soup 10.7 oz.
99¢

Cream of Mushroom 10 3/4 oz.
\$1⁰⁹

Del Monte Whole Kernel Corn
89¢

Carnation Evaporated 12 oz.
\$1¹⁹

Vega Shrimp 1 lb.
\$4⁹⁹ Limit 1

Imperial Choice Green Mussels 2 lbs.
\$4⁹⁹

Chicken Wings 3 lbs. \$5⁹⁹ /PACK
5.5 lbs. \$11⁹⁹ /PACK

Milk Fish 5.5 lbs. \$13⁹⁹ /LB

Crisco All Vegetable Shortening 3 lbs.
\$4⁹⁹

Dragon Veg. Oil 1 Gal.
\$6⁹⁹

Vegetable Oil 5 Gal. THIS SIDE UP LIMIT 1
\$23⁹⁹ 3 days only (04/30 - 05/2) \$24⁹⁹

Garden Fresco Vegetable Oil 1 Gallon
\$7⁹⁹

Golden State White Vinegar 1 gallon
\$3⁴⁹

Crisco Pure Corn 1 Gal.
\$1¹⁹

Tilapia
\$99¢/LB

U.S. Extra Large Eggs Dozen
\$2²⁹

Onion
79¢/LB

Garlic per bundle
89¢

Vlasic Dill Pickles (Wholes/Spears) 1 Gal.
\$6⁹⁹

Kikkoman 1.6 L.
\$3⁹⁹

Lemon Powder 5.29 oz.
\$4⁹⁹

Gold Medal Flour 5 lbs. Limit 2 pcs.
\$2⁹⁹

Maseca 4.4 lbs. Limit 1 pc.
\$4⁹⁹

Korean Butane Gas Limit 1 Case
3 days only (04/30 - 05/2) \$19⁹⁹ /CASE

Foam Cups 51 cents.
\$1⁹⁹

Bounty Basic 15 ROLLS \$15⁹⁹ 15 ROLLS \$8⁹⁹

Bounty 15 Rolls
Foam Plates 125 ct.
\$19⁹⁹ \$7⁹⁹

Coco Mackerel 15 oz.
\$1²⁹

Sugar 2 kg.
\$1⁹⁹

Morton Iodized Salt 26 oz.
69¢

Nescafe Taster's Choice Decaf/Original 7oz.
\$7⁹⁹

Nissin Cup Noodles 27 oz./box all flavors
\$5⁹⁹

Drypers Mega ALL SIZE
\$14⁹⁹

Spoon & Fork No Brand Name 100 cents.
\$1²⁹

Horse Shampoo 1 qt.
2 FOR \$3⁰⁰

Bottled White Candle 12 pcs./case
\$13⁹⁹ /CASE

Drypers (All Size) Mega Pack
\$14⁹⁹

Luvs Big Pack (All Size)
\$19⁹⁹

Coffee Mate 50 oz.
\$8⁹⁹

Folgers 33.9 oz.
\$9⁹⁹

3 days only (04/30 - 05/2) \$10⁹⁹

Charmin Basis 24 big rolls = 48 regular rolls
\$14⁹⁹

Diamond Foil 200 Sq. Ft.
\$7⁹⁹

BEEF SHANK \$10.95
FLANK STEAK \$16.95
PORK ADOBO \$10.95
PORK CHOP \$11.95
PORK BELLY \$11.95
STEWING CHICKEN \$6.95
TURKEY TAIL (FAMILY BAG) \$4.99
U.S. CHOICE BEEF SHORTRIBS \$13.99

BEEF BACK RIBS \$7.95
BEEF OXTAIL \$16.95
BEEF STEW \$12.95
RIBEYE STEAK \$17.95
BEEF TOP ROUND STEAK \$14.95
SMOKED HAM STEAK \$12.95
PORK BUTT \$10.95

Country Time Lemonade 2.33 Kg.
\$7⁹⁹

Tang 22 qts.
\$6⁹⁹

Lipton Ice Tea 4 oz.
\$7⁹⁹

Kool Aid 5 lbs.
\$7⁹⁹

Sunkist 1 Case Warm Only
\$6⁹⁹

NON-FOOD
SOFT 'N GENTLE (12 ROLLS) \$4.99
CHARMIN (24 ROLLS) \$8.99
GAIN POWDER (120 LOADS) \$19.95
GAIN LIQUID (300 OZ.) \$16.95
JOY ULTRA LEMON DISHWASHING LIQUID (90 OZ.) \$7.99
SUAVE SHAMPOO AND CONDITIONER (15 OZ.) 2 FOR \$3.00
PLATINUM NAPKIN (360 CTS) \$3.99

Diamond Foil 24/CASE Warm Only
\$12⁹⁹

Ritz Drink All Flavor (warm only)
\$12⁹⁹

Coke Regular 24/CASE Warm Only
\$12⁹⁹

Pepsi 330ml Warm Only
\$13⁹⁹ All Flavors

Budweiser/Budlight 24/CASE Warm Only
\$26⁹⁹

3 days only (04/30 - 05/2)

FREE SPAM ISLAND T-SHIRT SPAM
Receive a FREE SPAM™ Island T-shirt with the purchase of \$20.00 of assorted Hormel Foods products.

SPAM ISLAND T-SHIRT SPAM

NMC Honor Society inducts seven new members

The Northern Marianas College Beta Lambda Psi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society celebrated the induction of seven new members into the Society on Saturday, April 17, at the Pacific Islands Club's Charley's Cabaret.

Families, friends, NMC interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera, faculty, and PTK members joined in the festivities to honor the new inductees.

The six newest full members include students from the business and liberal arts majors: Michelle Camacho, Lauren Cundiff, Robert Deleon Guerrero, Madison Smith, Josefa Untalan, and Yoji Yoon. Also welcomed into the chapter was one new provisional member: Shannon Hofsneider.

In order to qualify for membership in Phi Theta Kappa, students must distinguish themselves by maintaining a 3.5 cumulative grade point average, in addition to serving and contributing to the Commonwealth through various community service and leadership activities.

The induction ceremony was carried out by the current PTK officers: president Roxanne Ferrer, vice president Frances Santos-Hofsneider, recording secretary Patricia Matagolai, membership secretary Djenina Diaz, treasurer Mindy Park, and faculty adviser Larry Lee.

Members selected former lawmaker Tina Sablan as the keynote speaker, and she inspired the audience with a motivating address.

The Special PTK Beta Lambda Psi Chapter Scholarships were awarded to seven active members that evening: Djenina Diaz, Roxanne Ferrer, Patricia Matagolai, Mindy Park, Miles Ro-



NMC Phi Theta Kappa Spring 2010 inductees, members, and adviser, following their recent induction ceremony.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

driuez, Frances Santos-Hofsneider, and Glenn Songcuan.

New chapter officers for the upcoming 2010-2011 academic year were also officially installed: president Glenn Songcuan, vice president Mindy Park, recording secretary Janel Pangelinan, membership secretary Albert Indalecio, public relations officer Migitte Kim, and treasurer Shannon Hofsneider. The formal induction ceremony was

followed by a buffet dinner.

An international organization, Phi Theta Kappa has recognized academic excellence, leadership, and service in two-year colleges since 1918. It is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 1.5 million members and 1,200 chapters in the United States, U.S. territories, Canada, and Germany.

A particular feature of PTK is com-

munity service. During this past year, PTK members have been actively involved in wiping out graffiti in the Commonwealth by painting over graffiti-laden bus stops in Fina Sisu and Chalan Kiya. In addition, the local chapter annually sponsors its Project Graduation: Feed a Body – Feed a Mind campaign during NMC's commencement week. Non-perishable food items and children's books are

collected for distribution to charities.

To date, NMC's PTK graduates have been awarded scholarships to continue their education at Hawaii Pacific University and at Syracuse University in New York.

For additional information about the NMC chapter, its membership, or activities, contact chapter president Roxanne Ferrer, or adviser Larry Lee for further information. (PR)



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System**
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-022

"CONSTRUCTION OF COVERED WALKWAY AT OLEAI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **CONSTRUCTION OF COVERED WALKWAY AT OLEAI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on April 30, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$25.10.

There will be a mandatory pre-site meeting on Tuesday, May 18, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at the Oleai Elementary School. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-site meeting. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 664-3715 or emailed to Mr. Rommel Mostales at rommel.mostales@cnmipss.com no later than May 20, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-022, and submitted with one (1) original and three (3) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, May 24, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 3rd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System**
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PSS RFP 10-025

"36 MONTH LEASE OF COMPUTER PRINTER/SCANNER/FAX COPIERS"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting competitive sealed proposals for a 36 month lease of up to 49 computer printers for the PSS schools and Central Office components. The firm(s) selected are to supply, deliver, install, maintain, and provide operational supplies for up to 16 computer printer at the PSS Central Office, Headstart Locations, PSS Warehouse, and up to 33 computer printers at PSS schools on Saipan, Rota and Tinian. The Proposal Package is available at the PSS Procurement Office or via e-mail request to robert.florian@cnmipss.org.

Interested firms are requested to attend a pre-proposal conference, in which questions regarding the capabilities and intended uses of the computer printers will be answered. The pre-proposal conference will held at the PSS Central Office Conference Room on the 2nd floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan at 9:30 AM Wednesday, May 12, 2010.

Proposals must be placed in a sealed envelope marked "RFP# 10-025" and submitted in an original with five copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office situated on the 3rd Floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than Tuesday, May 18, 2010. Proposals received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted.

The Public School System reserves the right to make single or multiple awards or to reject any or all proposals if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System. Inquiries regarding this RFP may be directed to robert.florian@cnmipss.org.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer

Business

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Spain downgraded as Europe debt crisis widens

BERLIN (AP)—Europe's debt crisis spread its contagion to another country Wednesday when a major agency downgraded Spain's credit rating, even as Germany grudgingly moved closer to bailing out Greece from imminent collapse. Greece and Portugal—up to now the focus of alarm—are relative economic minnows. But Spain's economy, at four times the size of Greece, is considered by many too big to rescue. At stake is the threat of higher borrowing costs that could crimp government spending for years and undermine the once-mighty euro. Chancellor Angela Merkel said Germany

would speed up approval of its share of a nearly \$60 billion (euro45 billion) joint bailout with the International Monetary Fund and other euro countries, rushing it through parliament by May 7. That would beat a May 19 deadline when Greece has debt coming due—and which it can't pay without a bailout.

GOP abandons blockade of banking regulation bill

WASHINGTON (AP)—Republicans abandoned their blockade against legislation to clamp tough new controls on Wall Street Wednesday, clearing a road to likely passage for the most sweeping rewrite of financial rules since the Great Depression. Democrats and Republicans agree the Senate

will ultimately pass landmark changes aimed at preventing a recurrence of the crisis that knocked the nation's financial system to its knees in 2008, but the battle now begins over crucial details. The House has already passed its version. Democrats said the Republicans had given in after three days of votes to block debate, realizing they were on the losing end of a battle for public opinion. GOP lawmakers said they would now switch to trying to change the bill on the Senate floor. Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, D-R.I., said, "There's been immense pressure bottled up inside the Republican caucus through these last three votes. A lot of their members have been very deeply unhappy with the

direction their leadership has been taking them. Better heads prevailed."

AP source: Obama to nominate Yellen as Fed's No. 2

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama on Thursday will name Janet Yellen to be vice chairwoman of the Federal Reserve and will fill two other vacancies at the central bank whose decisions influence economic activity, employment and inflation. An official with advance knowledge of the moves spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because a formal announcement was pending. Obama is putting a bigger stamp on the Federal Reserve at a time when the institution, which wields enormous

power over Americans' pocketbooks, is facing economic and political challenges. The Fed is steering the economy out of the worst recession since the 1930s and legislation to overhaul the financial system would eliminate some of the Fed's authority while giving it new responsibilities. Some lawmakers think the Fed overstepped its authority by bailing out some big financial firms during the 2008 financial crisis.

IMF: Stronger China currency among reforms needed

SHANGHAI (AP)—Asia's strong rebound from the global slowdown remains vulnerable to weak demand in Western economies, the International Monetary Fund said Thursday in a

report suggesting China should let its currency strengthen as part of measures to reduce the region's dependence on exports. "Asia remains more dependent on external demand than other regions. The global economy may stall, and then Asia would suffer the most," said Roberto Cardarelli, an IMF senior economist. While much attention has been focused on China's own need to foster stronger domestic demand to help rebalance its huge trade surpluses with the U.S. and other nations, reforms are needed across the region, the report said. "There is a need to build up demand from within Asia so that it is driving growth, not only growth in the advanced economies," said Anoop Singh, director of the IMF's Asia-Pacific Department.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
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 Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp



INVITATION FOR BID NMHC IFB 2010-004

AMENDMENT #01: Change of Pre-Bid Conference Date
 This ad is paid with HUD Funds by NMHC

Ground Maintenance Services for NMHC's Properties in Rota

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors are hereby giving notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids from interested, licensed companies in the Commonwealth to provide ground maintenance services for its properties in Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Interested firms may pick up Bid Specifications at the NMHC Office in Garapan, Saipan or at its Field Office in Songsong Village, Rota, beginning Monday, April 26, 2010, from 7:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m., during regular business hours, except CNMI holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the NMHC Field Office located in the Tamara and Seven Brothers Enterprises Building in Songsong Village on Thursday, May 20, 2010, at 10:30 a.m. Bidders will have the opportunity to tour the housing subdivision and other properties owned by NMHC to be covered under the proposed contract. Attendance at this conference and site visits are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements, and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

Sealed bids must be marked **NMHC IFB 2010-004**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two (2) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950, not later than **10:00 a.m., local time May 26, 2010**. Bids received after the date and time will not be accepted. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notice of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m., local time, May 26, 2010**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two (2) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **May 26, 2010**, and must be received at Procurement and Supply no later than **June 7, 2010**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan at **8:00 a.m., local time, June 8, 2010**. However, if no notice of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m., local time on May 26, 2010**.

NMHC hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contacts entered into pursuant to this advertisement, small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, religion, sex, disabilities or national origin.

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference" is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be awarded a contract with NMHC.

The Commonwealth Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in the bids if determined by the government to be in its best interest. All bids shall become the property of the Commonwealth Government.

/s/ MARCIE M. TOMOKANE
 Chairwoman of the Board

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAR
 Director, Procurement & Supply

 NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
 P.O. BOX 50514, SAIPAN, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BID

NMHC IFB2010-R-002

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds)

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, hereby give notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids for the **Installation of the Holding Tank for the Blue Grotto**, in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package consisting of Scope of Work, Technical Specifications, Plans and Bid Documents will be available on or after Friday, April 16, 2010, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of Twenty-Five (\$25.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by money order or cashier's check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference" as amended by Public Law 15-95 and further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

Bidders are also advised that this project is subject to compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act. All wage rates for laborers, mechanics and all other employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid the current minimum wage or the wage determination for the Commonwealth as specified in CM2010001 for the Mariana Islands.

A pre-bid conference will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 30, 2010**, at the proposed project site in Marpi, Saipan, and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

Sealed Bids must be marked "**NMHC IFB2010-R-002**". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director, Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m., local time, Thursday, May 6, 2010**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, May 6, 2010 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside of the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than May 6, 2010 AND must be received by Procurement and Supply no later than May 17, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, May 18, 2010. However, if no Notices of Intent to Bid are received from bidders outside of the CNMI, the bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m., local time, May 6, 2010.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be in the form of a Certified Check, Cashier's Check, or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Installation of the Holding Tank for the Blue Grotto". Surety companies must hold a Certificate of Authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the NMICAC §70.30.3.301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with NMHC and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment Bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000. Pursuant to Governor's Directive 251 dated March 15, 2006, bidders are required to include a Clearance from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner with respect to the financial bonding capability of the bidders' chosen Surety. In addition, the contractor will be required to deliver a certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments or other bond obligations) exceeded the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time for completion of this project is forty-five (45) calendar days upon issuance of an official written Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for the delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at One Hundred Dollars (US\$100.00) per calendar day.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant, American Recovery and Reinvestment (CDBG-R) funding provided to the Commonwealth that mandates ALL MATERIALS PURCHASED AND INCORPORATED INTO THE BUILDING/WORK MUST BE MANUFACTURED OR PRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

This project which goal is to provide economic stimulus as well as jobs creation is also subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 which requires recipients of HUD funds and the contractors to help insure that the economic opportunities generated by these HUD funds are provided to local low-income residents and the businesses that serve them "to the maximum extent feasible."

NMHC hereby notifies bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, women and small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, and disability status.

The Government reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any defects in the said proposals, if in the sole opinion of NMHC, to do so would be in its best interest. All proposals will become the property of the Government.

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane
 Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
 Director, Division of Procurement & Supply

Nation

Obama: Congress may not tackle immigration soon

ABOARD AIR FORCE ONE (AP)—President Barack Obama said Wednesday that there “may not be an appetite” in Congress to deal with immigration immediately after going through a tough legislative year.

With energy legislation on the table and midterm elections approaching, Obama said he didn’t want to force an immigration bill through Congress “just for the sake of politics.” Still, he said discussions on the issue must move forward in a way that can garner the support of the American people.

“We’ve gone through a very tough year and I’ve been working Congress very hard, so I know there may not be an appetite immediately to dive into another controversial issue,” the president told reporters aboard Air Force One returning with him to Washington from a Midwest trip.

The issue of immigration bubbled to the surface in recent weeks after Arizona Gov. Jan



A man waits to be processed by Mexican authorities after being deported from the US in Nogales, Mexico, Wednesday, April 28, 2010.

Brewer signed a controversial bill into law requiring local and state law enforcement to question people about their immigration status if there’s reason to suspect they’re in the country illegally. The law also makes it a state crime to be in the U.S. illegally.

Obama has sharply criticized the law, asking the Justice Department to look into whether it violates civil rights. On Wednesday, he said he understands the frustrations of people in Arizona who are faced with thousands of immigrants coming into their state illegally, but he said the

state’s new immigration law would only end up polarizing the debate over reform.

“What I think is a mistake is when we start having local law enforcement officials given the power to stop people on the suspicion that they may be undocumented workers,” Obama told reporters. “That carries a great amount of risk.”

The president said that while he believed he could get a majority of Democrats to support immigration reform, he still needs help from Republicans.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid had talked about moving immigration ahead of climate change legislation, a suggestion that splintered bipartisan support for the climate bill. Then Reid said Tuesday he was willing to bring up climate change legislation ahead of an immigration bill, but Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., was still angry that Reid considered putting off the climate bill.

implications for future church-state disputes.

By a 5-4 vote, the court refused to order the removal of a congressionally endorsed war memorial cross from its long-time home atop a remote rocky outcropping in California’s Mojave Desert.

The court directed a federal judge to look again at Congress’ plan to transfer the patch of U.S. land beneath the 7-foot-tall cross made of metal pipe to private ownership.

Federal courts currently are weighing at least two other cross cases, a 29-foot cross and war memorial on Mt. Soledad in San Diego and Utah’s use of 12-foot-high crosses on roadside memorials honoring fallen highway patrol troopers.

religious symbol on public land—in this case in the Mojave National Preserve.

While the holding Wednesday was narrow, the language of the justices in the majority, and particularly the opinion of Anthony Kennedy, suggested a more permissive view of religious symbols on public land in future cases.

Federal courts currently are weighing at least two other cross cases, a 29-foot cross and war memorial on Mt. Soledad in San Diego and Utah’s use of 12-foot-high crosses on roadside memorials honoring fallen highway patrol troopers.

New oil leak in well of sunken drilling rig

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Five times more oil a day than previously believed is spewing into the Gulf of Mexico from a blown-out well of a sunken drilling rig, the Coast Guard said Wednesday, an estimate the oil company trying to contain the massive spill disputes.

A new leak was discovered in the pipes a mile below the ocean’s surface. Coast Guard Rear Adm. Mary Landry said National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration experts now estimate that 5,000 barrels a day of oil are spilling into the gulf. Officials had estimated the leak for days at 1,000 barrels a day.

The news came hours after crews tried a test burn on the massive spill to try to slow it from reaching the U.S. shoreline.

Despite the new leak, an official from BP PLC, which leases the rig, said he did not believe the amount of oil spilling into the water is beyond earlier estimates. Doug Suttle, chief operating officer for BP, showed a diagram that plotted the leaks.

“Due to its location, we do

not believe this changes the amount currently believed to be released,” he said.

When asked again, Landry stuck to the NOAA estimate and said it was based on aerial surveys, study of the trajectory of the oil slick and other factors.

Also, the Secretary of Homeland Security has briefed President Barack Obama on this new information and the government has offered to have the Department of Defense help contain the spill and protect the U.S. shoreline and wildlife, she said.

“It has become clear after several unsuccessful attempts to determine the cause” that agencies must supplement what’s being done by the company, she said.

Meanwhile, crews late Wednesday afternoon did a test burn on the massive spill, which Landry noted was successful. BP had planned to continue the oil fires after the test, but as night fell, no more were lit. The burns were not expected to be done at night. No details about when more were planned were given during the news conference.

Mojave cross case: a signal on religious symbols

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Supreme Court’s conservative majority signaled a greater will-

ingness to allow religious symbols on public land Wednesday, a stance that could have important

implications for future church-state disputes.

By a 5-4 vote, the court refused to order the removal of a congressionally endorsed war memorial cross from its long-time home atop a remote rocky outcropping in California’s Mojave Desert.

The court directed a federal judge to look again at Congress’ plan to transfer the patch of U.S. land beneath the 7-foot-tall cross made of metal pipe to private ownership.

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ACROSS THE NATION

III. lawmaker’s engagement spotlights gay marriage

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP)—Illinois lawmaker Deborah Mell is sharing some bittersweet news with her colleagues. The sweet is that she’s engaged. The bitter is that Illinois doesn’t recognize gay marriage. So she plans to get married in Iowa, which does. Mell rose on the Illinois House floor Wednesday to announce her engagement and say she looks forward to the day when same-sex couples can marry in Illinois. A 1996 law specifically defines marriage as applying only to a man and a woman. Illinois doesn’t allow civil unions for same-sex couples, and recent efforts to begin offering civil unions have fallen short. Mell’s announcement was greeted with applause. Several lawmakers rose to congratulate the 41-year-old, who got engaged two weeks ago to her girlfriend of six years.

WA man guilty of killing child for insurance money

SEATTLE (AP)—A Washington state man accused of drowning his 3-year-old stepdaughter so he could collect on a \$200,000 life insurance policy has been convicted of second-degree murder. A jury on Wednesday found 40-year-old Joel Zellmer of Kent guilty in the death of Ashley McLellan. The girl was pulled unconscious from the family swimming pool in December 2003 and died two days later. Zellmer says he was asleep when his stepdaughter wandered into the backyard and into the pool while her mother was at work. Prosecutors alleged Zellmer drowned Ashley so he could collect on an insurance policy taken out three months earlier. At trial, they said he preyed on single mothers he dated so he could target their children for potential insurance payoffs. Jurors were told about other children suffering broken bones, burns and a near-drowning.

Prosecutors seek to dismiss whale sushi charges

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Federal prosecutors have moved to dismiss charges against a Southern California sushi restaurant that admitted serving illegal and endangered whale meat, though the case appears not to be over. U.S. attorney’s office spokesman Thom Mrozek said Wednesday that prosecutors want charges dismissed without prejudice, meaning they could refile them in the future. Mrozek didn’t explain the move, but said the investigation into The Hump restaurant in Santa Monica remains open and active. Typhoon Restaurant Inc., parent company of The Hump, and the restaurant’s chef were each charged with a misdemeanor count of selling a marine mammal product for an unauthorized purpose. An attorney for Typhoon has said the now-closed restaurant accepted responsibility for the wrongdoing.

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP10-DEQ-094**

SUBMISSION: MAY 18, 2010 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

“PERFORMANCE OF ASTM PHASE I AND PHASE II ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT OF TWO POTENTIAL LEAKING UNDER-GROUND STORAGE TANK SITES ON SAIPAN, CNMI FOR THE DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY”

THE SCOPE OF WORK IS AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER APRIL 16, 2010 AT THE DEQ OFFICE LOCATED IN THE GUALO RAI CENTER BUILDING, SAIPAN OR ELECTRONICALLY BY E-MAIL REQUEST TO maximilian@deq.gov.mp

A PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 04, 2010 AT 10:00 A.M. IN THE 2ND FLOOR DEQ CONFERENCE ROOM (RM. 205). QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MAY BE SUBMITTED BY FACSIMILE TO MR. MAX SIMIAN, GEOLOGIST, AT (670) 664-8540 OR BY E-MAIL AT maximilian@deq.gov.mp NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS MAY 07, 2010.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ FRANK M. RABALIUMAN
DIRECTOR OF DEQ

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAM
DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB10-DOC-074**

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 02, 2010 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

“SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF NEW USED OIL SEPARATOR AND NEW OILY WATER SEPARATOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, CNMI ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS - DIVISION OF ENERGY AND THE COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION”

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ MICHAEL J. ADA
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAM
DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP10-CHC-092**

SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 14, 2010 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

“MEDICAL/DENTAL BILLING AND COLLECTION SERVICES FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER”

THE RFP PACKAGE MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY IN LOWER BASE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

ALL QUESTIONS OR INQUIRIES FOR CLARIFICATION IS DUE ON MAY 04, 2010 OF BUSINESS AND SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO MS. ESTHER L. MUNA, MHA, CPC AT TEL. (670) 234-8950, BY FAX TO (670) 234-8930 OR VIA E-MAIL AT elmspn@aol.com

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/s/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ
SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAM
Director, P&S

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@ptc.com.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TRASH COLLECTION SERVICES

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL CPA-RFP-001-10A

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting cost proposals for trash collection services for a period of two years. The collection locations and scope of work package is available Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor, Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport.

Interested proposers are encouraged to contact CPA’s Terminal Maintenance Department at 237-6500 to make arrangements for a site visit of the trash collection locations.

Interested proposers must submit one original and four copies of the sealed cost proposal for the term of two-years service, a description of proposer’s past performance and experience, list of equipment, and proof of insurance in compliance with CPA’s insurance requirements. The employees of the winning proposer accessing the secured areas at the airport will be required to obtain an airport security badge which includes finger-printing and criminal background check, at the expense of the proposer.

The sealed proposals must be submitted before 4:30 p.m., Friday, April 30, 2010, at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport. CPA reserves the right to reject any and all proposals if in its opinion to do so is in CPA’s best interest.


EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

Date: April 15, 2010

Asia

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—An opposition senator and son of the Philippines' democracy icon Corazon Aquino has widened his lead over his closest

presidential rivals in the May 10 polls, an independent survey said Thursday.

Sen. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III has the support of

ASIAN BRIEFS

Thai authorities, protesters clash; 1 soldier dies

BANGKOK (AP)—Thai troops fired rifles and threw tear gas at a crowd of anti-government protesters riding motorbikes down a busy expressway Wednesday, blocking their effort to take the demonstrations that have paralyzed central Bangkok into the suburbs. The hourslong confrontation killed one soldier—apparently from friendly fire—and wounded 18 other people as it transformed the suburban streets into a battle zone. Heavily armed troops took cover behind terrified commuters' cars and one driver clasped her hands in prayer as the soldiers wove their way through traffic. Security officials suggested the possibility of an escalation in the violence. In a television broadcast Wednesday night, they displayed 62 grenades they said had been found in a bag dropped by a motorcyclist who fled a police checkpoint on a road leading to the site of the clash. The bloodshed Wednesday was the first violent

confrontation in nearly a week, and protest leaders accused the government of leading the nation to the brink of civil war.

South Korea honors sailors killed in ship sinking

PYEONGTAEK, South Korea (AP)—Sirens blared across South Korea on Thursday as a solemn military funeral honored 46 seamen killed after a blast sank their warship last month. Officials vowed retaliation against those responsible for an attack many believe North Korea launched. Warships anchored at the base south of Seoul where the funeral was held sounded whistles, and seamen aboard saluted when the vehicles carrying the ashes left for the cemetery. A somber President Lee Myung-bak and his wife—who joined 2,800 mourners at the ceremony—offered white chrysanthemums, burned incense and bowed before the framed photos of the soldiers, while buglers played taps. Lee, the commander in chief of South Korea's armed forces, then saluted.

Poll: RP election front-runner widens lead

four in 10 Filipinos with 39 percent of those responding to a survey conducted by pollster Pulse Asia.

Support for rival Sen. Manny Villar, the country's wealthiest politician, has dropped from 25 to 20 percent from last month, leaving him tied with former President Joseph Estrada, Pulse Asia said.

The survey, conducted April 23 to 25 with 1,800 adult respondents nationwide, has a margin of error of 2 percentage points.

Starting from a tight race with Villar at the beginning of the campaign in January, Aquino, 50, has slowly emerged as a front-runner.

A senator who served three terms as congressman, Aquino has been a quiet lawmaker and has struggled to step out from the shadow of Corazon Aquino, who fought dictator Ferdinand Marcos and was swept to power in the 1986 "people power" revolt.

He offered himself as a leader of moral and political renewal for the Philippines in response to a massive outpouring of grief and public sympathy following his mother's death of cancer in August.

Aquino has anchored his



AP Presidential candidate Sen. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III, center, is greeted by supporters as he arrives for a campaign sortie at Bulacan province, north of Manila, Philippines, Wednesday, April 28, 2010.

ous years of President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's rule.

While Aquino is seen as the darling of the upper and middle classes, Villar, who made his

fortune as a real estate developer, has been courting the votes of the poor with his rags-to-riches life story. A third of the population live on a dollar a day and about 3,000 Filipinos leave daily for jobs abroad.

Man stabs 28 children at kindergarten in China

BEIJING (AP)—A knife-wielding man wounded 28 children—most just 4 years old—and three adults Thursday at a kindergarten in eastern China, the second such violent assault at a Chinese school in as many days.

Five of the students were in critical condition in the hospital in Jiangsu province, said Zhu Guiming, an official with the propaganda department in Taixing city. Zhu said two teachers and a security guard also were hurt in the attack that happened early in the school day.

The attacker was a 47-year-old local man, the official Xinhua News Agency reported. It said many of the victims were 4 years old and in the same class at the Zhongxin Kindergarten.

REQUEST for PROPOSALS MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST RFP #10-02

INVESTMENT in a LOCAL HIGH YIELD PORTFOLIO EXTENDED

This is a request for any and all investment proposals from interested parties or firms seeking capital sources or funding for projects or ventures within the CNMI.

MPLT Board of Trustees has recently updated its Asset Allocation and determined that a percentage (5%) of its total investment portfolio (\$3.137 million) shall be devoted to a local investment program. This local investment program will be designated as high yield investments since the associated risks are much higher than those of publicly traded investment grade securities. The reasons for this are as follows:

- Challenges to obtaining sufficient capital for projects or ventures.
- Associated promissory notes cannot be traded or sold thus have no liquidity.
- Associated promissory notes are not rated and considered less than investment grade.
- Often the local private or public sector proposer's ability to repay the loan is challenged.
- Credit rating for such borrowers is often low.
- Ability to raise capital or obtain credit is limited.
- Maximum exposure for each investment cannot be controlled.
- Sufficient collateral beyond those acquired with loan proceed is limited.

As a high yield investment, MPLT may limit the duration to a preferred five years term but longer term may be considered. This is not a low-income or low interest rate program. Interest rates will be determined based upon risk and duration. Due to the higher risks associated with this type of investment, a risk premium will be added to the base interest rate.

Proposal information and guidelines under this program can be obtained at the MPLT Office as shown below. Further, as part of the fee, MPLT shall include fees for servicing costs, legal review fees, consult review fees. Therefore, each applicant shall be charged a non-refundable application fee of \$500 by Cashier's Check or Money Order, due upon submission of the application. Each proposer shall agree to and shall pay an origination fee of 1% on the approved investment amount, for the closing/administrative costs for any approved proposal.

Eight (8) copies plus one original of the sealed proposals must be submitted to the MPLT Office, Government Building #1313, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 2:00 PM, on May 26, 2010. Proposals must be sealed and marked "Local High Yield Investment Program, RFP 10-02". Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The MPLT reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if to do so shall be in its best interests. All proposals shall become the exclusive property of the MPLT.

/s/ Phillip Mendiola-Long
Chairman

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Location: North Marianas College, Saipan

*** TUMON, GUAM - STARTS: MONDAY - MAY 3, 2010

Location: Holiday Resort - Tumon, Guam

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Captain Jerry Barcinas (671) 797-5365 or Captain Neri Blas (671) 727-3325

**** or call direct (Florida): Adams Marine Seminars: toll free # (877) 447-1950

(Deposits for Guam can be made in person at Guam Tropical Dive Station: Marine Drive, Across from Ace Hardware)

World

WORLD BRIEFS

Chavez takes to Twitter to fight critics online

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—President Hugo Chavez has joined the ranks of those who say, "If you can't beat 'em, tweet 'em." Facing a flurry of cyberspace critics, the loquacious leader known for hours-long speeches made a revolutionary move Wednesday, sending his first message from a Twitter account where his missives are limited to 140 characters. "Hey how's it going? I appeared like I said I would: at midnight. I'm off to Brazil. And very happy to work for Venezuela. We will be victorious!!" it read. Just as Chavez has been cracking down on traditional media, he finds himself on the defensive against an Internet-based opposition doing battle with computers and handhelds. "As the government has tightened the screws on the media, the use of the Internet, blogs, Twitter and so forth has grown exponentially," said radio host and newspaper columnist Nelson Bocaranda, whose witty anti-Chavez commentary has earned him more than 140,000 followers on Twitter.

Puerto Rico accused of violating squatters' rights

TOA BAJA, Puerto Rico (AP)—Puerto Rico is mistreating squatters in a largely Dominican community, according to an unusual petition filed Wednesday to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights alleging abuses inside U.S. jurisdiction. The American Civil Liberties Union petition calls on the U.S. and Puerto Rican governments to restore water and electricity to Villas del Sol, a settlement of plywood and cement shacks where it charges about 200 families have been abused by police and unfairly targeted because many of them are immigrants. Police in riot gear arrived to evict the squatters Aug. 3, claiming they are illegally occupying a dangerous flood zone. Residents locked arms to keep them out. Since then, police have been stationed outside the community around the clock in an uneasy standoff and the water has been turned off except for a month surrounding Christmas. Some residents now bathe in water from a filthy creek. Others collect rainwater from their roofs. Many store water in open containers that are suspected to be the cause of clouds of mosquitoes and outbreaks of illnesses including dengue fever.

Aids groups accuse Zambia prisons of violations

LUSAKA, Zambia (AP)—Prisons in Zambia are so overcrowded that inmates are sometimes forced to sleep seated or in shifts, and children behind bars are vulnerable to rape by adult prisoners, aids organizations said. A report released by the Prisons Care and Counseling Association (PRISCCA), AIDS and Rights Alliance for Southern Africa (ARASA), and Human Rights Watch on Tuesday said that some prisoners are detained for years enduring such conditions before they are even brought to trial. "Zambian prisoners are starved, packed into cells unfit for human habitation, and face beatings at the hands of certain guards or fellow inmates," said Kenneth Roth, executive director of Human Rights Watch. "Children, pregnant women, pretrial detainees, and convicted criminals are condemned to brutal treatment and are at serious risk of drug-resistant TB and HIV infection."

Ash, Greek credit crises reveal a disunited Europe

LONDON (AP)—It can be easy to forget about borders in Europe, a continent united by fast trains, cheap flights, a single currency and passport-free travel stretching from Portugal to Poland.

A pair of massive crises that hit the European Union this month have been a startling reminder, however, that cooperation and regulation are still a long way from taming the old forces of national self-interest and disorder.

The disruption of aviation by an Icelandic volcano ash cloud and the contagious Greek debt crisis have revealed a continent linked by complex systems but strangely lacking in tools to quash threats in any coordinated way.

European aviation is, by definition, an international affair. But virtually every aspect of it is controlled by individual nations, not the EU. When Iceland's Eyjafjallajokull (ay-yah-FYAH-lah-yer-kuhl) volcano started spewing ash two weeks ago, national authorities were largely on their own in deciding how to respond. What followed was a cascade of total airspace closures that cost European airlines and related businesses up to euro2.5 billion (\$3.3 billion) and left some 10 million of travelers stranded around the world.

Only after a week of paralysis, with airlines complaining about overreaction and sending up test flights to show jet engines weren't endangered by the dispersing ash, did the European Union produce a continent-wide



AP
Asgeir Gudmundsson, a member of a volunteer rescue team, cleans volcanic ash, Thursday, April 22, 2010, from the roof and gutters at the Onundarhorn dairy farm, south of the Eyjafjallajokull glacier near Hvolsvollur, Iceland.

response that loosened the limits on flights and began restoring aviation.

"There's very little European competence or coordination in this area," said Helen Kearns, a spokeswoman

for the EU Transport Commissioner. "For the 27 to bring themselves together took far too long."

The most searing criticism being aimed at the EU has not been over the

volcano response, but over indecision and lack of action on helping Greece make payments on massive debts that far outstrip national income after years of profligate spending.

"It's like the air chaos," said Karel Lannoo, CEO of the Centre for European Policy Studies in Brussels. "Who speaks for Europe? Everyone and no one."

Months of dithering due to German reluctance to anger its voters by extending billions to Greece helped trigger devastating debt downgrades of Greece and Portugal, followed by an alarming cut Wednesday in the rating for Spain—a much larger economy.

Many are describing the lack of strong European economic governance as a deep and fundamental flaw.

"What is exposed is the underlying lack of solidarity within the euro zone," said Simon Tilford, chief economist at the Centre for European Reform in London. "It's basically exposed the fallacy of believing that it's possible to have a bunch of largely sovereign countries sharing a currency."

Together, the two crises have battered the airline business, the euro and markets, and the public image of the European Union, already the target of deep skepticism in many member nations.

Dublin hotel manager Gerard Fitzpatrick, 48, said his family had already changed its summer holiday plans because of fears of another mismanaged volcanic-ash scare.

Hamas says Egypt kills four tunnel smugglers

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP)—Egyptian forces pumped gas into a cross-border tunnel used to smuggle goods into the Gaza Strip on Wednesday, killing four Palestinians, Hamas officials said.

Egypt has been under pressure to seal off the hundreds of tunnels that are a key economic lifeline for the blockaded Palestinian territory but which are also used to bring in weapons for the Islamic militant group.

Israel and Egypt have kept Gaza's official border crossings closed since Hamas seized control of the coastal strip in 2007 from forces loyal to Western-backed Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, who now only governs in the West Bank.

A Hamas security official in charge of the tunnel area along the border said the Egyptians filled the passage with some type of crowd dispersal gas. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to give his name.

The Hamas Interior Ministry later said in a statement the gas used to try to clear the tunnel was poisonous. Besides those killed, six people were injured, it said.

"The Interior Ministry confirms that the citizens' cause of death was the Egyptian security forces spraying poison gasses into one of the tunnels," the statement said without elaborating.

A doctor at a hospital in the Gaza border town of Rafah, Hamdan Abu Latifa, said the dead smugglers suffocated.

UK campaign gaffe: Brown calls voter a bigot

LONDON (AP)—Britain's Prime Minister blundered into the first major gaffe in his country's short campaign season Wednesday when an open microphone captured him slamming a voter he'd just been trying to win over.

Brown, apparently forgetting that he'd left a television microphone pinned to his chest, called 66-year-old Gillian Duffy a "bigoted woman" as he was being driven from a public meeting where she had needled him on immigration.

Within minutes the bad-tempered aside had exploded across the British media, and within a couple of hours Brown was rushing back to her home to beg Duffy's forgiveness and writing to his supporters to make clear

he'd apologized.

All the rest of the country could do was look on as the cringe-inducing drama played out over television and radio. The debacle dealt Brown a big setback on the eve of the last TV debate ahead of the May 6 vote.

Duffy, a retired widow and a self-described supporter of Brown's Labour party, met with the prime minister at a campaign stop in the northern town of Rochdale and questioned him about the influx of eastern European immigrants who have come to Britain.

Many people are angry that im-

migrants are taking jobs at a time when Britain's unemployment level is rising. More than 1 million eastern Eu-

ropeans have moved to Britain since the EU gained new members such as Poland, Bulgaria and Romania in 2004, but many have since left during the bruising recession.

Brown brushed the question aside and explained that Britons were also working in Europe, jumping into his prime ministerial Jaguar before complaining to an aide about the awkward encounter.

"That was a disaster, they should never have put me with that woman. Whose idea was that? It's just ridiculous," Brown is heard saying.

Asked what Duffy had said to upset him, Brown told the aide: "Everything. She's just a sort of bigoted woman."

Gunmen opened fire on another car elsewhere in the city, killing four young men inside, Sandoval said. Separately, a gang of armed men killed a man sitting in a wheelchair on the sidewalk, he said.

Police had no information on the identities of any of the gunmen.

The army, meanwhile, reported that it freed 16 hostages Tuesday at a house in Sabinas Hidalgo, a town near the northern city of Monterrey. One of the hostages was a 1-year-old child.

Shootings kill 16 people in Mexican border city

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico (AP)—Gunmen stormed into a bar, dragged out eight people and killed them in the parking lot, the first of several shootings in this violent border city Wednesday that left 16 dead, including a man in a wheelchair.

In one incident, a car chase and shootout killed three people in front of an elementary school, creating a panic among students, teachers and parents.

Battles between rival drug gangs have made Ciudad Juarez, across the border from El Paso, Texas, one of the world's deadliest cities. More than 800 people have been killed this year in the city of 1.3 million people.

Armed men burst into the Aristos

bar in the middle of the night, said Arturo Sandoval, a spokesman for the Chihuahua state attorney general's office. Eight people were forced out into the parking lot and shot to death.

The victims had not been identified, but Sandoval said at least one appeared to be a teenage boy.

The shootout in front of the Benito Juarez elementary school erupted hours later. Sandoval said a woman and two men were found dead inside a car.

Gunmen in a car chased down another vehicle and opened fire in front of the school around noon, said a teacher who asked not to be quoted by name out of fear for his safety.

The teacher said a pregnant teacher

and three students suffered panic attacks and were taken to a hospital. Classes were canceled for the rest of the day, and parents rushed to pick up their children.

Gunmen opened fire on another car elsewhere in the city, killing four young men inside, Sandoval said.

Separately, a gang of armed men killed a man sitting in a wheelchair on the sidewalk, he said.

Police had no information on the identities of any of the gunmen.

The army, meanwhile, reported that it freed 16 hostages Tuesday at a house in Sabinas Hidalgo, a town near the northern city of Monterrey. One of the hostages was a 1-year-old child.

Off the Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

6-pound foal born in NH may be world's tiniest

BARNSTEAD, N.H. (AP)—A diminutive horse born in New Hampshire could lay claim to the world record for lightweight foal. The pinto stallion named Einstein weighed just 6 pounds and measured 14 inches tall when he was born Friday in Barnstead, N.H. Those proportions fit a human baby just about right but are downright tiny for horse, even a miniature breed like Einstein. Dr. Rachel Wagner, Einstein's co-owner, says the Guinness Book of Records lists the smallest newborn horse as weighing in at 9 pounds. Breeders say that unlike the current record holder, Thumbelina, Einstein shows no signs of dwarfism. He's just a tiny horse.

Police: Woman bites man after being called fat

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP)—Police say a 24-year-old man is missing a chunk of his right ear that was bitten off by a woman who didn't like being called "fat." Police spokeswoman Katie Flood said officers were called to a Lincoln hospital around 3:25 a.m. Wednesday to talk to the injured man. He told them that he'd been bitten at a party. Flood said officers later learned that the injured man and two others had been arguing with other people at the birthday party. Flood says the man told 21-year-old Anna Godfrey that she was fat. Officers said Godfrey then tackled the man and took a bite. Flood said the ear chunk was not found. Godfrey was arrested on suspicion of felony assault and remained in custody Wednesday.

Fla. researcher bitten while measuring sharks

MIAMI (AP)—Florida International University officials say one of their researchers was bitten in the elbow while measuring sharks for research on their ecological impact in the coastal Everglades. Mike Heithaus, director of FIU's School of Environment and Society, says marine biologist Kirk Gastrich was bit by a six-foot lemon shark near the mouth of Shark River on Wednesday. Two other researchers with Gastrich called for help, and he was transported to a South Florida hospital. Heithaus, who is Gastrich's boss, says the injuries were relatively minor and don't appear to be life-threatening. It's not clear how Gastrich got bit. Heithaus says Gastrich has measured and tagged hundreds of sharks over the years.

Gas prices jump to more than \$9 in Alaska town

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—Most Americans are paying about \$3 a gallon for gas. The residents of McGrath, Alaska, saw their gas prices jump by that amount in one night. The price at the only pump in the remote town 415 miles northwest of Anchorage went from \$6 a gallon Friday to \$9.20 the next day. Crowley Petroleum Distribution says it was forced to raise the price because the winter nearly drained the town's supply, and the only option was to fly in more fuel. The cost increase is the difference between flying the gasoline and shipping it on a barge. Crowley says it won't be able to send a barge until June at the earliest. Some of McGrath's estimated 400 residents have formed an anti-Crowley Facebook page and are trying to boycott the company while city officials look for ways to get cheaper fuel.

Retired pastor from Diamond finds unusual diamond

MURFREESBORO, Ark. (AP)—A retired minister from Diamond, Mo., may have been destined to find a diamond at the Crater of Diamonds State Park. But Mack Evans said the 4.89-carat rock he discovered recently didn't even look like a diamond, and he almost threw it away. The grayish-white diamond, which is the size of a jellybean, is called a "Ghost Diamond." Park interpreter Margi Jenks said most diamonds form as a single crystal, but occasionally an aggregate like the one Evans found will pop up.

Md. college to offer midnight psychology class

ARNOLD, Md. (AP)—With enrollment surging at community colleges, Anne Arundel Community College is taking a novel approach: midnight classes. The college will offer a psychology class from midnight to 3 a.m. Thursdays this fall. It's being dubbed "Midnight Madness." The class was dreamed up by Matt Yeazel, the head of the psychology department. He said introductory courses have been overflowing in recent semesters, so he settled on the new time slot as a way to reach more students. Paul Vinette will be teaching the class. He said it's a bold and innovative move for a "brick-and-mortar institution." Community colleges in Massachusetts, Indiana, Missouri and Oregon have also started offering late-night classes. Enrollment at two-year schools is up 17 percent this year.

PETA buys ad space on Oregon man's cremation urns

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—A dying Oregon comedian's last words will be written on his cremation urns—and the message will be sponsored by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. The animal rights group has paid \$200 to place ads blasting KFC and dog breeders on the urns that will hold the remains of Aaron Jamison, who is dying of colon cancer. The Springfield man offered the ad space earlier this month so his wife wouldn't be left with funeral costs. Since then, the \$800 cremation cost has been covered, and donations have helped pay some of Jamison's medical bills. One of the PETA ads will say: "I've Kicked the Bucket - Have you? Boycott KFC." The other reads: "People who Buy Purebred Dogs Really Burn Me Up. Always Adopt."

Police say man wrapped in toilet paper robs store

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP)—A man who concealed his face by wrapping his head with toilet paper robbed a Lincoln convenience store. Police said the man was armed with a knife when he robbed the store around 10:30 on Saturday night. He escaped on foot with an undisclosed amount of money from the safe. Capt. David Beggs said Sunday that no one was injured.

Police: Vomiting dog causes man to crash into pole

WINONA, Minn. (AP)—A man has a pretty good excuse for why he crashed his car into a utility pole in Winona: his dog puked on him. The Winona Daily News reported police found the car unattended last Thursday morning against an Xcel Energy pole. Witnesses told officers they saw a man leaving the area and walking a beagle. The 18-year-old, who does not have insurance or a Minnesota driver's license, called police about four hours later to confess. The man told police he was driving when his dog started "throwing up all over him." Deputy Police Chief Tom Williams said the story checked out—police found vomit in the car. The pole had only minor damage. The man was cited for driving without insurance or a license.

Texas crew mistakenly demolishes the wrong house

DENTON, Texas (AP)—A woman was trying to figure out what to do after a demolition crew wrongly tore down most of her house, instead of one across the street. Francis Howard told the Denton Record-Chronicle that "I don't have the words to say" about what happened to her family's longtime home. The 69-year-old woman, who lives with her son in Frisco, said Monday that the family had resided in the Denton home for 47 years. Much of the house was demolished April 21. City records show the house that was supposed to be demolished was ordered in January to be repaired or torn down, due to unkept lawns, outside storage, junked vehicles and failure to secure the structure.

Technology

HP to buy Palm in \$1.4B deal

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Palm Inc. a pioneer in the smartphone business that couldn't quite make the comeback it needed, has agreed to be bought out by Hewlett-Packard Co. for about \$1.4 billion in cash.

The two Silicon Valley companies announced Wednesday that the deal will see HP pay \$5.70 for every Palm common share and certain preferred shares. Also included in the \$1.4 billion price tag are pay-

ments for additional preferred shares, warrants and employee restricted stock units.

Counting Palm's cash and debt, HP's offer values the company at \$1.2 billion.

Palm was founded in 1992 by Donna Dubinsky and Jeff Hawkins and helped originate the handheld computing market with its Palm Pilot "personal digital assistants" in the 1990s. But after Palm reshuffled itself repeatedly

it was bought by U.S. Robotics, a modem maker that itself was bought by 3Com Corp. in 1997, and then spun off again as its own company in 2000—other companies took control of the market.

In recent years, as handheld computers morphed into "smart phones," Palm struggled to keep up as consumers flocked to such devices as Apple Inc.'s iPhone and Research In Motion Ltd.'s BlackBerry.

Sound advice: Eliminating spikes in volume

By DON LINDICH
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Q. I hate the spikes in volume that occur when watching TV or a movie. I'm not impressed with Audyssey compensation feature on my Denon receiver as it compresses the sound and I still need to have the remote in hand at times for the volume spikes. Is Pioneer's MCACC better at controlling these spikes than Audyssey?—K.V., Lehigh Valley, Pa.

A. If you are watching from a DVD or Blu-ray Disc check your player's audio menus for a feature called "Dynamic Range Compression," "DRC," or "Midnight Mode." They are all the same thing, just given different names by different manufacturers. Dynamic Range Compression will equalize the volume and eliminate the spikes more effectively than circuitry in the receiver. These modes also makes dialogue easier to hear when listening at lower than average volume levels.

Most consumer complaints of sudden volume spikes are caused by commercials, which seem to be getting louder and

louder these days. Before we get into that, I will discuss Pioneer's MCACC for readers who are unfamiliar with it.

Pioneer's MCACC is an automatic setup and equalization system found exclusively in Pioneer receivers. MCACC sends out test tones and measures them with an included microphone, taking note of the output of the speakers, their distance from the microphone, and the effect of your room acoustics on the sound. MCACC then adjusts the balance of the speakers while applying compensation to compensate for the acoustical shortcomings of the room.

MCACC is dramatically superior to other systems selling in the under \$2,000 price range (such as Audyssey) and is a very good reason to choose a Pioneer receiver. Not only does it make setting up a surround speaker system a breeze, it improves the sound quality noticeably.

As you have noted, MCACC incorporates a feature called ALC that is supposed to compensate for drastic changes in volume, such as those that occur when the program switches to a commercial. Though it

The problem is really getting out of hand and lately I have been "startled out of my chair" myself when a commercial comes on. I wonder if the advertisers have no shame at all, nor the broadcasters who willingly transmit the commercials without applying any adjustment to bring the levels more in line with the actual programming. Complaints have made it all the way to Congress and legislation has been introduced with the goal of ending the problem for good.

The Commercial Advertisement Loudness Mitigation Act (also referred to as CALM) recently passed unanimously in the House of Representatives is now in the Senate. CALM would require that ads not be "excessively noisy or strident" and includes terminology that would in essence mandate that commercials be the same volume as the accompanying program material.

TECH Q&A

Too much PC protection can slow it down

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Question: My HP notebook PC with Windows Vista has been running very slowly, and I'm wondering if I may have installed some type of malware. I checked Windows Help and Support, and it suggested I use the Windows Defender software that's included with Vista.

I got an error message when I tried to run it, and now I can't uninstall it because it's not in my list of programs. I can't download it again because the PC says I already have it.

I tried running Malwarebytes' Anti-Malware, Stinger, Ad-Aware, Spybot, HouseCall and AVG, but while they all found and repaired some problems, the PC is still slow.

Because Windows System Restore wasn't turned on, I can't use it to return my PC settings to a time before the PC slowdown occurred.

Any suggestions?

Answer: You're running too many programs

that do the same thing, and they're slowing down your PC.

HouseCall, AVG, some versions of Ad-Aware and, to a lesser extent, Stinger are antivirus programs. Pick one (not Stinger) and uninstall the others.

Windows Defender is a spyware removal program that scans automatically, and thus uses up computing power. You don't want it to run. If it does, read how to turn it off at tinyurl.com/66ffqz.

Spybot and Malwarebytes scan for malicious software, but don't run continuously, so keep both.

■ ■ ■

Q: We would like to change our e-mail accounts from the Outlook Express program on Time Warner's Road Runner Internet service to Google's Gmail. How can we transfer our extensive address books to new accounts without having to retype each address?

A: To learn how to import Outlook Express address books to Gmail without retyping anything, go to tinyurl.com/yjwxnu.

Life & Style

NEW YORK (AP)—Sandra Bullock is dumping her two-timing husband and welcoming a new guy into her life—a baby boy she is adopting as a single mother.

Divorce papers were filed Friday in Austin, Texas, where the 45-year-old Oscar-winning actress has a home. The impending end of her five-year marriage to Jesse James came as no surprise on the heels of reports that the motorcycle mogul had been cheating on her and that the couple had already separated.

Instead, the bombshell, set off by Bullock in an interview with People magazine, published online Wednesday, was the news that she brought a newborn son home to California earlier this year and has been raising him unbeknownst to almost anyone.

Bullock and James began the adoption process four years ago, according to the People article. They brought 3 1/2-month-old Louis Bardo Bullock home in January but decided to keep the news to themselves until after the Academy Awards.

The baby is named after jazz great Louis Armstrong, who had touched Bullock with his signature song, "What a Wonderful World," she said in the interview. The child was born in New Orleans, a city where Bullock and James had both spent time after Hurricane Katrina.

The baby became available during "the media craziness of the awards season," she said. Deciding to shield Louis from that turmoil, she kept his arrival hidden from all but a few trusted

Bullock is divorcing James, adopting baby

associates and loved ones.

"Anything we did with Louis had to be pre-planned like a CIA mission," she said. "Just the doctors' visits were filled with decoys and dark cars . . . People that I had worked with for years couldn't understand why I wouldn't let them into my house for (Oscar ceremony gown) fittings."

The sleeplessness almost any new mother knows remained a mystery to Bullock's makeup artist, who wondered why she needed "copious amount of concealer."

Meanwhile, her husband had been keeping secrets of his own, which spilled out with reports that he had cheated on Bullock throughout their marriage. Those cheating allegations became public within days of Bullock's winning the Oscar on March 7 for best actress for her role in the blockbuster "The Blind Side."

Bullock and James met in 2003 and were married two years later. It seemed like an odd pairing—the Hollywood actress often called "America's Sweetheart" marrying the tattooed biker who had been wed twice before, designed custom motorcycles and starred in reality shows such as "Monster Garage" and "Jesse James Is a Dead Man."

It was the first marriage for Bullock, who became the devoted stepmom to James' kids: Sunny, 6; Jesse Jr., 12; and Chandler, 15.

After the cheating scandal broke, James publicly apologized



Copies of the latest People Magazine featuring Sandra Bullock and her newly-adopted son Louis Bardo Bullock are shown on sale in New York, Wednesday, April 28, 2010.

Jesse James says loss of son has broken his heart

NEW YORK (AP)—As Sandra Bullock files for divorce from husband Jesse James and adopts son Louis as a single mom, James says he's left with "a huge hole in my heart."

But it would be selfish not to let her go, James said in a statement posted Wednesday on People magazine's website.

James was responding to an interview with Bullock on People's website in which she disclosed that she and her now-estranged husband adopted a newborn child several months ago.

The Oscar-winning actress has since split from James after revelations of his marital infidelity.

In his statement, James speaks of an unspecified addiction that he says has taken from him the child and his wife. He calls them "two of the things I love the most in life."

gized to Bullock and his children. He recently returned home after a 30-day stay in a treatment facility where he sought help for "personal issues," People said.

In a statement posted Wednesday on the People website, James called Bullock "the love of my life, but considering the pain and devastation I have caused her, it would be selfish to not let her go."

Bullock's response?

"I did the only thing I could do," she told People, "and that was to pack enough clothes to live on, get all of Louis' things and get out of town. My main concern was Louis."

According to the divorce filing, Bullock and James no longer live together, and the marriage "has become insupportable because of discord or conflict of personalities that . . . prevents any reasonable expectations of reconciliation."

Asked by People whether James will have any formal role in raising Louis, Bullock said: "I will be adopting as a single parent. Anything else will be taken day by day."

In new book, Laura Bush discusses 1963 fatal crash

DALLAS (AP)—Former first lady Laura Bush says in her new book that she lost her faith for many years after her pleas to God to spare the life of a high school classmate whose car she hit were not answered.

Bush talks in detail for the first time publicly of the accident she was involved in as a 17-year-old in Midland, Texas, that killed her friend Mike Douglas. She says that she and a girlfriend were on their way to a drive-in theater on Nov. 6, 1963, when she ran a stop sign and hit Douglas' car.

The memoir, "Spoken from the Heart," is set for release next week. A copy of the 456-page book was obtained by The Associated Press on Wednesday.

Bush says that in the emergency room after the accident, she could hear Douglas' mother sobbing on the other side of a curtain.

She also dispels rumors that she ever considered leaving her hus-

band over his drinking, saying she never told him it was "Jim Beam or me." She says that while his drinking was indeed a problem at one point, they loved each other and never considered divorce.

Bush says in the book that when she became a mother, she began to fully understand what his parents had gone through. She says that after a high school classmate of her twin daughters' committed suicide, she insisted that they visit the friend's parents.

In her book, the former first lady also talks about everything from her childhood to meeting George W. Bush—the man she fell in love with for his humor and steadfastness—to her time as first lady.

She also dispels rumors that she ever considered leaving her hus-



Bush

nizing that "failures are best met head-on, clear-eyed."

The former first lady also talks about the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, saying she was shocked that the communications system had made it difficult for her to speak to her husband. He tried to call from Air Force One and couldn't get through. She had to call him, and only succeeded

on the second try. Watching the news on TV, she felt a "mourning like I had never known."

Bush defends her husband's decision to invade Iraq and was surprised when intelligence that Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction proved to be wrong. She says that in hopes of resolving the crisis, her husband had contacted Saddam through France and Russia and was hoping for a "last-minute breakthrough."

prior to his death.

The designer was "overwhelmed with grief" at the loss of his mother days before he took his own life, coroner's officer Lynda Martindill said.

Police found a note that said: "Look after my dogs, sorry, I love you, Lee" scribbled onto the back of a book in his room. They said there were no suspicious circumstances.

The designer was known by his first name Lee among friends and family.

His family released a brief statement saying they were struggling to come to terms with his death.

Coroner: McQueen tried to overdose before suicide

LONDON (AP)—A depressed Alexander McQueen twice tried to overdose on drugs in the months before he hanged himself, the fashion designer's psychiatrist and a coroner said Wednesday.

Coroner Paul Knapman ruled that McQueen's Feb. 11 death was a suicide, and said the designer took his life after taking a mixture of cocaine, sleeping pills and tranquilizers.

The 40-year-old "killed himself while the balance of his mind was disturbed," Knapman told a public inquest that aimed

to establish the circumstances surrounding his death. In Britain, inquests are held whenever someone dies violently or in unexplained circumstances.

"It seems that he had a history of self-harm and, no doubt fueled by cocaine, he resorted to desperate measures to end his life," he said.

McQueen's body was found in a wardrobe in his apartment on the eve of his mother's funeral. The coroner's court said the cause of his death was asphyxiation and hanging.

McQueen's psychiatrist, Dr.

Stephen Pereira, told the inquest that the designer suffered from the pressures of his high-profile career. He was diagnosed with depression and anxiety and had attempted two drug overdoses in May and July, 2009, Pereira said.

"Usually after a show he felt a huge come-down. He felt isolated, it gave him a huge low," the doctor said, adding that the designer saw his work as a "double-edged sword."

A toxicology report said McQueen took a "substantial" amount of cocaine and sleeping pills mixed with tranquilizers

In Loving Memory of

Luzviminda Jamosin Dellipou
known as 'Minda'

Wife of Sarapio M. Dellipou was called to her Eternal Rest on Wednesday, April 28, 2010 at the Commonwealth Health Center.

Holy Rosary is being offered nightly at CHC Chapel at 7:00 p.m.

Thank you for your prayers.

From the Family

'American Idol' boots another finalist

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Siobhan Magnus really has something to scream about now.

The eccentric 20-year-old glass blower with a penchant for wailing at the end of her "American Idol" performances was eliminated from the Fox singing competition Wednesday.

The judges praised Magnus' energetic rendition of Shania Twain's "Any Man of Mine" on Tuesday's show, but the Marlboro Mills, Mass., woman received the fewest viewer votes.

"I did my best, and I hope that I was able to show them what we're all capable of," Magnus said when asked about what she wanted her younger sisters take away from her "Idol" experience.

Joining her in the bottom three were 27-year-old construction worker Casey James of Fort Worth, Texas, and 26-year-old personal trainer Michael Lynche of Queens, N.Y.

The judges complimented James' delicate interpretation of "Don't!" and Lynche's soulful rendition of "It Only Hurts When I'm Breathing" on the evening of tunes from mentor Twain's songbook.

The other finalists remaining in the singing competition are: 24-year-old musician Crystal Bowersox of Toledo, Ohio; 24-year-old paint sales clerk Lee Dewyze of Mount Prospect, Ill.; and 17-year-old high school



student Aaron Kelly from Sonestown, Pa.

Next week, the singers will

In this publicity image released by Fox, Siobhan Magnus performs on the singing competition series "American Idol," Tuesday, April 27, 2010 in Los Angeles.

AP

be mentored by Harry Connick Jr. and perform songs from Frank Sinatra.

Rielle Hunter talks about Edwards with Winfrey

CHICAGO (AP)—John Edwards' mistress said the former presidential candidate's wife didn't know about the full extent of their relationship until after he gave an interview to ABC News correspondent Bob Woodruff admitting the affair.

"She didn't know until after the interview," Rielle Hunter told Oprah Winfrey about Elizabeth Edwards in quotes provided Wednesday by Harpo Productions. "He came clean with her after that interview."

Hunter's full interview with Winfrey is to air on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" on Thursday.

Winfrey asked Hunter why John Edwards, a former North Carolina senator, did the August 2008 interview with Woodruff, which was taped a few hours before it aired on ABC.

"Everyone who was close to—well, who knew all the facts and knew the truth said, please don't do that interview. Please don't do that interview," Hunter told Winfrey. "Elizabeth really wanted him to do that interview. She wanted him to say, you know, you've got to get out in front of it. You've got to, you



This photo released April 23, 2010, by Harpo Productions shows Oprah Winfrey during an interview with Rielle Hunter at Hunter's home in Charlotte, North Carolina.

know, say the truth and speak the truth. And she didn't know the truth. So it's like you can't do the interview and not speak the whole truth."

On the day of the interview with Woodruff, Elizabeth said her husband had told her about the extramarital affair in 2006, and John Edwards said he had told his wife and family long ago.

Hunter's appearance on Winfrey's show is her first televised interview since Edwards first admitted two years ago that he had

an affair with her. In January, Edwards said he and Hunter have a 2-year-old daughter after initially denying it. He and Elizabeth Edwards are now separated.

GQ magazine last month published an interview with Hunter in which she addressed the scandal. She told the magazine the affair ended in July 2008 and that the relationship is now something "different." She didn't say whether they are still romantically involved but said Edwards wants to be there for their daughter.

Anne Frank's full diary on display in Amsterdam

AMSTERDAM (AP)—Nearly all of Anne Frank's diary went on display Wednesday for the first time at the house where she wrote it during the two years the Jewish teenager was in hiding from the Nazis.

The notebooks and pages that comprise the World War II diary have been moved into the Anne Frank House museum to mark 50 years since it opened its doors to the public.

Dutch Queen Beatrix was opening the exhibition later Wednesday.

The original red plaid diary in which Anne began writing on her 13th birthday has been at the museum for several years.

But that covered just six months of the 25 months she hid with her family and four other Jews in a concealed canal-side apartment in Amsterdam. Two other school exercise books and other pages

were stored at the Netherlands War Documentation Center, the government war archives.

Now on display are the three parts of the diary, a book of short stories she wrote called "Tales from the Secret Annex," and a notebook of her favorite quotations.

Anne also wrote 360 loose pages written on flimsy paper, mostly revising earlier diary entries with the intention of publishing it after the war. Because of the papers' fragile state, the museum said it will display 40 sheets at a time and rotate them.

The diary and other papers have all been studied, published and in some cases reproduced in replicas. But it will be the first time visitors see nearly the full collection in Anne's own hand in one place.

The diary has been translated into dozens of languages, has been read by millions of people

and is on the curriculum of many schools.

The cramped apartment, with two stories and a small attic, was restored and opened to the public on May 3, 1960, by Anne's father, Otto Frank, the only survivor among the eight Jews who hid there.

The museum now includes the front of the building, where Otto Frank once had a warehouse and office, and a new building next door. It receives about 1 million visitors a year, compared with 9,000 the first year.

The diary chronicles Anne's life and coming of age from June 12, 1942 until August 1, 1944. The house was raided three days later and its occupants deported to Germany. Anne died of typhus at age 15 in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in March 1945, about two weeks before the camp was liberated.

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NOW SHOWING

Synopsis

A real estate mogul (Brendan Fraser) goes head-to-head with a group of furry critters looking to protect their forest from development in this Summit Entertainment/Participant Media co-production. The family-oriented comedy was written by Mr. Woodcock's Michael Carnes and Josh Gilbert.



A Nightmare on Elm Street

Friday	4:10	7:30	9:50
Saturday	1:20	4:10	7:30
Sunday	1:20	4:10	7:30
Mon thru Thurs	4:10	7:30	

Jackie Earle Haley, Kyle Gallner
Horror • Rated R

Synopsis

Platinum Dunes revives the Nightmare on Elm Street franchise with this reworking of slasher film legend Freddy Krueger, a deceased child killer who torments the dreams of the teenagers of Springwood, OH. Jackie Earle Haley picks up the killer's mantle from series veteran Robert Englund with the reboot from music-video director Samuel Bayer.



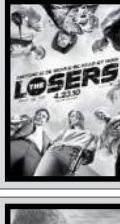
The Back-up Plan

Friday	4:00	7:00	9:30
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00
Mon thru Thurs	4:00	7:00	

Jennifer Lopez, Alex O'Loughlin
Romance, Comedy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

A single woman opts for artificial insemination after dating for years and failing to find the right guy, only to see the man of her dreams breeze into her life just as she learns she's pregnant. Zoe (Jennifer Lopez) is well aware that her biological clock is ticking, but she just can't find the type of guy she'd want to settle down and start a family with. Eventually, she makes the decision to become a single mother. The very same day that Zoe is artificially inseminated, however, she meets Stan (Alex O'Loughlin), a single charmer whom she thinks would make a great father.



The Losers

Friday	4:05	7:10	9:55
Saturday	1:30	4:05	7:10
Sunday	1:30	4:05	7:10
Mon thru Thurs	4:05	7:10	

Zoe Saldana, Chris Evans
Action • Rated PG 13

The Bounty Hunter

Friday	4:15	7:15	10:00
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15
Mon thru Thurs	4:15	7:15	

Jennifer Aniston, Gerald Butler
Comedy • Rated PG 13



The Last Song

Friday	4:20	7:05	9:40
Saturday	1:05	4:20	7:05
Sunday	1:05	4:20	7:05
Mon thru Thurs	4:20	7:05	

Miley Cyrus, Liam Hemsworth
Drama • Rated PG

Clash Of The Titans

Friday	4:25	7:20	9:45
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:20
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:20
Mon thru Thurs	4:25	7:20	

Sam Worthington, Liam Neeson
Fantasy • Rated PG 13

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In this Jan. 21, 2007 file photo, director Bill Condon arrives at Odeon Leicester Square for the premiere of "Dreamgirls" in London.

Peter Jackson made a knight—for real

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—"Lord of the Rings" filmmaker Peter Jackson has been made a knight—a real one—accepting the honor Wednesday in his native New Zealand on behalf of the thousands of people who helped make his movies.

"I feel incredibly humbled," Jackson said at an investiture ceremony in the capital, Wellington, where New Zealand's head of state, Governor General Sir Anand Satyanand, did the honors in lieu of Queen Elizabeth II. His knighthood was for services to the arts in New Zealand.

"The truth is, making movies is not a solo effort—it involves hundreds of people, thousands of people—so I feel as though I'm accepting it on behalf of the

'Big Brother 9' contestant facing drug charge

BOSTON (AP)—A former contestant on the CBS reality show "Big Brother 9" pleaded not guilty Wednesday to a federal drug charge.

Matthew McDonald, a 26-year-old roofer from Boston, was arraigned Wednesday after being indicted Tuesday on a charge of conspiracy to distribute oxycodone.

A person familiar with the investigation said authorities allege that McDonald supplied oxycodone to "Big Brother 9" winner Adam Jasinski (jah-ZIN'-skee), who was charged in October. The person, who was not authorized to release details, spoke on the condition of anonymity.

A detention hearing is scheduled Monday to determine if McDonald will be released

Bill Condon to direct fourth 'Twilight' film

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Director Bill Condon, who already knows a little something about gods and monsters, is set to direct the fourth and final film in the "Twilight" series, "Breaking Dawn."

Summit Entertainment, which is releasing the wildly popular vampire franchise, said Wednesday that Condon would take the helm for the latest installment. The script is being written now, with stars Kristen Stew-

art, Robert Pattinson and Taylor Lautner returning.

Condon won an Oscar for the screenplay of his 1999 film "Gods and Monsters." He also directed "Dreamgirls" and "Kinsey" and produced the 2009 Academy Awards ceremony with Hugh Jackman as host.

The third film in the series based on Stephenie Meyer's books, "The Twilight Saga: Eclipse," is set to come out June 30.

Felony charges dropped against actor Randy Quaid

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (AP)—Randy Quaid won't have to worry about missing any more court appearances after prosecutors dropped felony charges Wednesday against the actor.

Quaid's wife Evi, however, will be on probation for three years after she pleaded no contest to a misdemeanor count of defrauding an innkeeper. She also will have to perform 240 hours of community service.

"This is a very fair resolution of the matter," said attorney Robert Sanger, who represents the couple. "The Quaids are pleased with the disposition."

The couple had been charged with defrauding an innkeeper of more than \$10,000 as well as conspiracy and burglary after an invalid credit card was used at San Ysidro Ranch in Montecito.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Arnie Tolks said an invalid card also was used at The Biltmore, a luxury resort in Santa Barbara.

Prosecutors had a strong circumstantial case against Randy Quaid, but his wife was more involved with the transactions in question so charges were dropped against the actor, Tolks said.

"He really had very little to do with the ongoing negotiations and the attempts by the hotel to get payment," Tolks said, adding both businesses had been repaid.

industry," he said.

Jackson has risen from a maker of small-budget schlock-horror films to the heights of Hollywood. His crowning achievement remains the three-movie adaptation of "Lord of the Rings," which transformed the rugged landscape of New Zealand into the Middle Earth of J.R.R. Tolkien's fantasy epic—spurring a real-life tourism industry along the way.

The final movie in the trilogy won 11 Academy Awards. Jackson has gone on to remake "King Kong," and his latest film is "The Lovely Bones."

In 2003 he opened Park Road Post Production movie center in Wellington. It includes special effects and animation companies Weta Digital and Weta Workshop.

on bail. His lawyer, James Cipoletta, said his client strongly denies the charge.

"He and Mr. Jasinski were on the reality show together. Federal court is the ultimate reality show, but the information given to the government is pure fiction," Cipoletta said.

McDonald is facing separate state charges of aggravated assault and battery in the alleged beating of his pregnant girlfriend on April 18. He is also charged with intimidation of a witness for allegedly calling his girlfriend and urging her not to cooperate with prosecutors.

Jasinski, of Delray Beach, Fla., pleaded not guilty in federal court last year to trying to sell about 2,000 oxycodone pills to a man working with authorities.

the British version of "The Office," which later was successfully adapted as an NBC comedy. He also co-created and starred in "Extras," a comedy series that aired on HBO. His current feature film is "Cemetery Junction." Before Gervais, the Hollywood awards show had gone more than a decade without a host.

Kinnear, Holmes starring as JFK, Jackie in drama

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Greg Kinnear and Katie Holmes will star in "The Kennedys," the History Channel's first scripted mini-series. The channel announced Wednesday that Kinnear will play President John F. Kennedy, and Holmes will portray first lady Jacqueline Kennedy in the eight-hour program about the famous family. Barry Pepper is set to play Robert Kennedy, who served as U.S. attorney general in his brother's administration. Tom Wilkinson is cast as patriarch Joseph Kennedy. The family's personal drama will be part of the saga along with major events of their time, the channel has said. The miniseries is scheduled to air on the History Channel in 2011.

Letterman's production company forms record label

NEW YORK (AP)—David Letterman is getting into the music business. His pro-

duction company, Worldwide Pants Inc., has formed its own record label and it already has its first act. Clear Entertainment/C.E. Music will release the debut album from the punk duo Runner Runner this summer. Their self-titled album is being released through a new partnership with Letterman's label, EMI Music's Capitol Records and MRV label. The band, from Huntington Beach, Calif., will begin touring next month.

Celeb chef Stone, NBC's Morales to host Miss USA

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Network and pageant officials say celebrity chef Curtis Stone and NBC correspondent Natalie Morales will host the 2010 Miss USA pageant next month in Las Vegas. Officials said Wednesday that the show would also feature performances from country star Trace Adkins and pop-rock band Boys Like Girls. The pageant airs live May 16 from the Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino on the Las Vegas Strip. Stone is a competitor on NBC's "Celebrity Apprentice" with Donald Trump, who owns the pageant in a joint venture with the NBC network. Morales has been a correspondent and co-host on NBC's "Today" show since 2005. Officials say the broadcast will include Joan Rivers and daughter Melissa as commentators.

Couple's abortion decision is nobody's business but theirs

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: My fiancee, "Cheryl," and I are in our early 30s and recently made an extremely difficult decision. We decided to terminate her pregnancy at six weeks. Cheryl's sister "Nicki"—my future sister-in-law—is opposed to abortion and now no longer wants to talk to me or have anything to do with me.

I have tried reaching out to Nicki to explain the reasons for our decision, but it has fallen on deaf ears. Should I continue asking her for forgiveness, or have I done enough already? This is causing Cheryl a great deal of pain, and I don't believe that it's fair for Nicki to punish me for a personal family decision. Please let me know your thoughts.



Dear Abby

CHERYL'S FIANCE IN PHOENIX

DEAR FIANCÉ: So how did Nicki get inserted in the middle of something that was none of her business in the first place? Surely, she didn't have a vote. Nicki is entitled to her feelings, but she has no right to punish you for a decision that was arrived at by both you and her sister. And the person to make that crystal clear to Nicki is Cheryl, not you, so stop apologizing.

The decision to terminate a pregnancy is an extremely sensitive one and never one that is taken lightly. Every decision has consequences, and I am sure that you and your fiancee accepted that when you made yours.

DEAR ABBY: Many senior citizens, including me, never get a phone call, visit or e-mail from our children or grandchildren. They say they're too busy with school, sports, etc. I say baloney!

Is this present generation so narcissistic that all they can think of is themselves? Your answer will go to many, many seniors who would like some communication once in a while.

WAITING BY THE PHONE, FRIENDSWOOD, TEXAS

DEAR WAITING: There are far more constructive and rewarding things to do with your time than wait fuming by your phone because you feel you're not receiving enough attention. One of them would be to reach out and contact your children and grandchildren yourself. Others include getting out of your house, volunteering at a hospital (a pediatric ward, perhaps?), library, animal rescue or your political party—ANYTHING but sit around feeling angry and isolated.

There is more pressure on families today than at any time I can remember. Many teens are so overscheduled and pressured to succeed they don't get enough sleep. So please try to judge them less harshly.

DEAR ABBY: My husband is a computer programmer. When he calls me from work I can hear him typing on his keyboard. I find this as rude as people texting while they're in the company of others. My husband thinks it is just fine and becomes angry if I mention it. What do you think?

ANNOYED IN IMPERIAL BEACH, CALIF.

DEAR ANNOYED: I think that when your husband is working, he should devote his full attention to the job he's being paid to do. And as accomplished as your husband may think he is at multitasking, it is unfair to his boss to chat you up on company time. He should be making his personal calls during his breaks—away from his computer.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Cookbook Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson



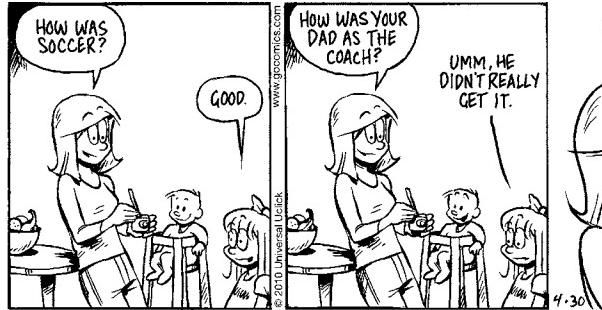
Garfield®



By Jim Davis



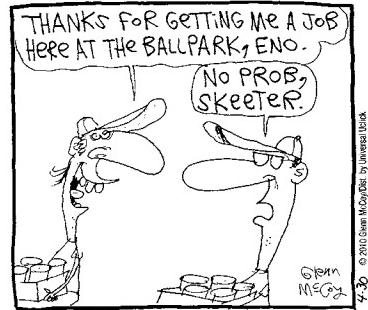
Adam@home



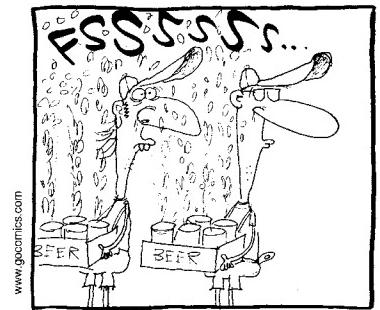
By Bryan Basset



The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

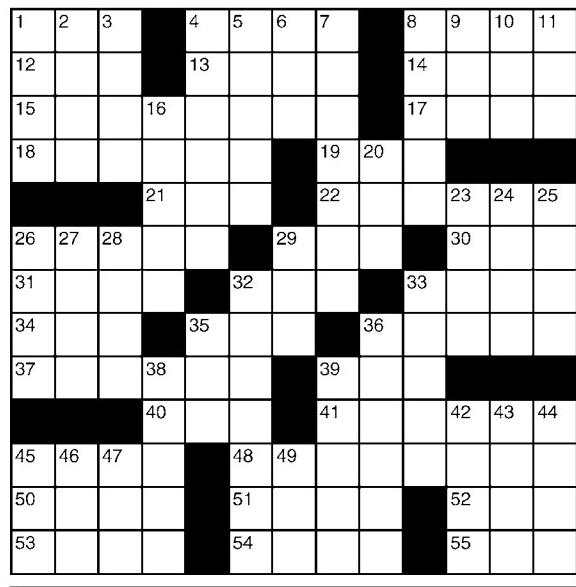


CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	39	33-Across	3	Bullets	25	Mongo-	lilian
1	Resort	40	Main-	and such	4	Ram's-	tent
4	Practice	lander's	horn	26	Stylish —	27	Puerto —
pugilism	8	memento	trumpet	5	Detail	28	Detail
Castle's	41	Mountain	— willow	6	Office	29	Office
protection	ridges	45	Vivacity,	7	machine	32	machine
12	Branch	to Vivaldi	to	Lessened	33	Semi-	conductor
13	Ginor-	48	Consist of	8	element	35	element
mous	45	Lisa's	50	Sir's	36	Big-time	mistake
14	Con	brother	51	counter-	37	Lawyer's	due
15	Calm	treat	52	part	38	6-foot	sport fish
17	Profound	53	Sixth	9	Indivisible	39	opposite
18	Parodies	sense	54	Foolhardi-	40	Taglio's	opposite
19	Actress	personi-	55	diness	41	Opposite	opposite
Thurman	52	fied	At the	10	Needling	42	extra
21	Remuner-	home of	56	lawn work	over-	innings	innings
ation	Follow	orders	57	Do some	come	39	with emotion
22	orders	of	58	lawn work	with	38	(SI.)
26	TV	journalist	59	lawn work	emotion	39	(SI.)
Catherine	journalist	Catherine	60	lawn work	reverse	40	(SI.)
29	A handful	DOWN	1	Pouches	Be over-	41	(SI.)
30	Lucy of	1	1	Entreaty	come	42	(SI.)
"Charlie's	Angels"	Shore	2	False-	with	43	(SI.)
31	Top 10,	(up)	3	hoods	extra	44	(SI.)
e.g.	32	Blue	4	Speck	innings	45	(SI.)
33	Micro-	5	DOwn	20	Old	46	(SI.)
brewery	product	6	Pouches	Do some	gasoline	47	(SI.)
34	Lemieux	7	1	lawn work	brand	48	(SI.)
milieu	milieu	8	23	lawn work	preceder	49	(SI.)
35	Repair	9	24	lawn work	English	50	(SI.)
36	Raise	10	25	lawn work	channel	51	(SI.)
a glass	to	11	26	lawn work	Cheer-	52	(SI.)
37	Urge	12	27	lawn work	leader's	53	(SI.)
		13	28	lawn work	word	54	(SI.)
		14	29	lawn work	Wrath	55	(SI.)
		15	30	lawn work	Tramcar		
		16	31	lawn work	load		
		17	32	lawn work			
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		34	49	lawn work			
		35	50	lawn work			
		36	51	lawn work			
		37	52	lawn work			
		38	53	lawn work			
		39	54	lawn work			
		40	55	lawn work			

Yesterday's answer 4-30



For answers to today's crossword, call
1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

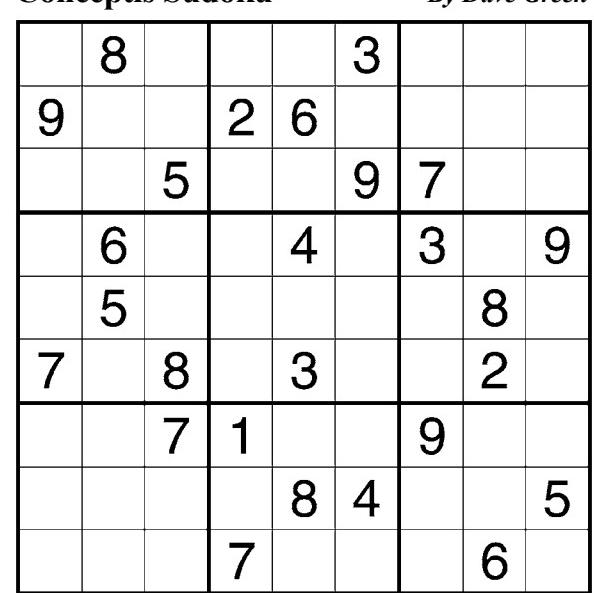
STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call
1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

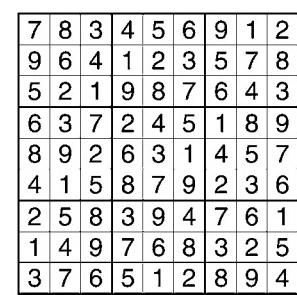
By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★

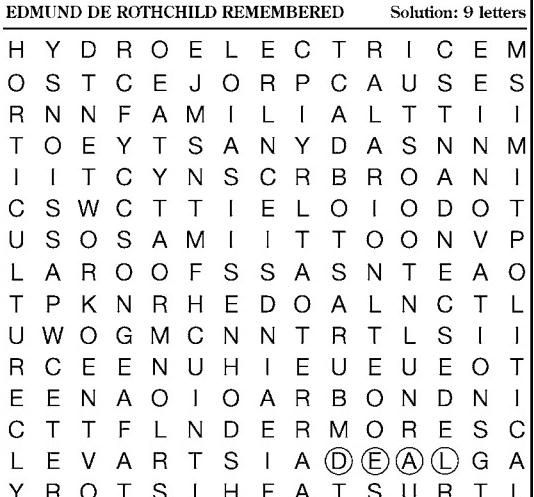
WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

EDMUND DE ROTHSCHILD REMEMBERED

Solution: 9 letters



© 2010 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com

SALE: The topics of Wonderword for Kids appeal to younger fans but the puzzle-difficulty matches what you've come to expect from Wonderword. For a limited time, the book is on sale for just \$4 each (U.S. funds only), payable to Universal Uclick. Include \$3 postage for the first book order. \$1 p/h for each additional book. Send to Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-622-6460.

Yesterday's Answer: Catnap

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CLASSIFIED ADS



CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS

	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$27
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?

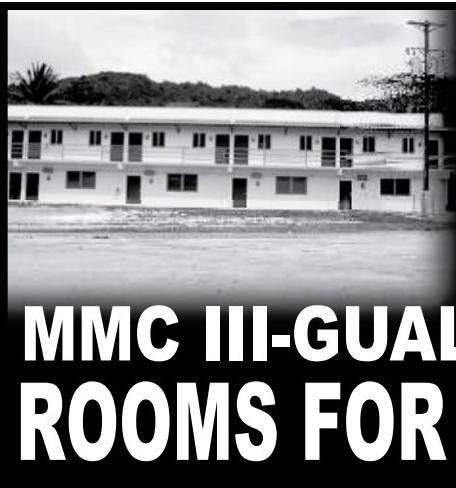
Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

I T

P E R S P R A I O N

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Find today's solution in this section



**For Inquiries,
Please call
MMC
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MMC III-GUALO RAI ROOMS FOR RENT

Computer Repair

Only **\$25** WE ALSO FIX
Minor Problem LAPTOP &
Problem USED PARTS

17" Monitor - FOR SALE

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Open: 7 Days a Week
4:00pm - 9:00pm

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU
Genset/24 hr water, security, laundry room,
free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind
NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.
Special rates for NMC faculty/students.
Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR
& 1BTH Apts w/private balcony &
beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C &
Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator.
Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime
security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

WHATZIT Solution: Sweat it out

NEW GIG DISCO

is looking for...

- Cashier
- Waitress
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For part-time or full-time
Please contact 234-5050
for more details.

Soft Opening
APRIL 29 (THURSDAY)
8:00 PM

Grand Opening
APRIL 30 (FRIDAY)
8:00 PM

**Individual/Group Dance
Contest on May 7, 2010**

1st Place \$500.00 + gift

2nd Place \$300.00 + gift

3rd Place \$100.00 + gift

**For more information on how
to join, please call 234-5050**

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR
& 1BTH Apts w/private balcony &
beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C &
Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator.
Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime
security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

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facility. Reply to Cambridge
Communication Systems
at Tinian@cbridgeinc.com



**Northern Mariana Islands
RETIREMENT FUND**
"Investing For The Future Financial Security Of Our Members"

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
JVA10-002

FUND LEGAL COUNSEL

OPENING DATE: March 26, 2010 CLOSING DATE: Until Filled

The NMI Retirement Fund is seeking a professional and motivated individual to work in a challenging environment as a Legal Counsel for the Fund. Salary maximum is \$70,000, depending on experience. Benefits are commensurate with the responsibilities assigned to the successful candidate and in compliance with CNMI laws.

Interested applicants must submit their application, resume, educational credentials, police clearance and others as outlined in the JVA package. The complete package is available from the Fund, located on Capitol Hill, Saipan; or by e-mail through the Fund Administrator. Mailed and hand delivered packages must be marked "JVA10-002 Confidential," and must have the applicant's name and return address on the outside of the envelope.

Mark Aguon, Administrator
NMI Retirement Fund
P.O. Box 501247
Saipan, MP 96950-1247
E-mail: administrator01@nmiretirement.com

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
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Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.mp>

ANNOUNCEMENT OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position: Special Assistant for Housing Programs
Opening Date: April 21, 2010 Closing Date: May 20, 2010
Salary: \$30,000 (Ungraded)
Job Location: NMHC Central Office, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with NMHC's employment application form, during regular working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

Applicants are requested to submit their original application and supporting documents to the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, May 20, 2010 OR MAILED AND POSTMARKED no later than May 20, 2010, to the Corporate Director, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System**
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-036

"PAINTING OF DANDAN ELEMENTARY, SAN VICENTE ELEMENTARY, KAGMAN ELEMENTARY, CHACHA JR. HIGH AND KAGMAN HIGH SCHOOL"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **Painting of Dandan Elementary, San Vicente Elementary, Kagman Elementary, Chacha Jr. High and Kagman High School**, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on April 30, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$34.55.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, "BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS". Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, "Competitive Sealed Bidding".

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on May 19, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at the PSS Conference Room, 2nd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at lizb@emchen.com no later than May 21, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-036, and submitted with one (1) original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 9:00 a.m., local time, May 26, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 2nd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" provisions.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System**
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-037

"PAINTING OF WSR, HOPWOOD JR. HIGH, SAN ANTONIO ELEMENTARY, KOBLELVILLE ELEMENTARY AND SAIPAN SOUTHERN HIGH SCHOOL"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **Painting of WSR, Hopwood Jr. High, San Antonio Elementary, Koblerville Elementary and Saipan Southern High School**, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on April 30, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$34.55.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, "BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS". Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, "Competitive Sealed Bidding".

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All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-037, and submitted with one (1) original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, May 26, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 2nd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" provisions.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System**
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-038

"PAINTING OF GTC ELEMENTARY, TANAPAG ELEMENTARY, GARAPAN ELEMENTARY, OLEAI ELEMENTARY AND MARIANAS HIGH SCHOOL"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **Painting of GTC Elementary, Tanapag Elementary, Garapan Elementary, Oleai Elementary and Marianas High School**, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on April 30, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$34.25.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, "BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS". Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, "Competitive Sealed Bidding".

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on May 19, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at the PSS Conference Room, 2nd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at lizb@emchen.com no later than May 21, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-038, and submitted with one (1) original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 11:00 a.m., local time, May 26, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 2nd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" provisions.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System**
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-039

"THREE (3) - 12 PASSENGER VAN AND ONE (1) CARGO VAN FOR JROTC PROGRAM"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the purchase of **THREE PASSENGER VAN AND ONE CARGO VAN FOR JROTC PROGRAM**. The Scope of Work is available beginning April 30, 2010 at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund building, Capitol Hill, Saipan MP 96950. Fax requests may be sent to 664.3791.

Questions must be in writing and addressed to Robert Florian, Procurement Officer via fax at (670) 664-3791 or e-mailed to the following address: robert.florian@cnmipss.org.

Bids must be placed in a sealed envelope marked "**IFB 10-039**" containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement & Supply Office situated on the 3rd Floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **May 19, 2010, at 10:00 a.m.**, at which time bids, will be publicly opened. Any bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer



ATLANTA (AP)—With Andrew Bogut cheering from the bench, Brandon Jennings teamed with Kurt Thomas in a duo for the ages to push the Milwaukee Bucks one win from an improbable first-round upset.

Jennings scored 25 points, Thomas drew a crucial charging foul against Joe Johnson and the Bucks stunned the home team with a 14-0 run late in the game, beating the favored Hawks 91-87 on Wednesday night for a 3-2 lead in the best-of-seven series.

Milwaukee's third straight win over third-seeded Atlanta gives the upstarts a chance to wrap up the series at home in Game 6 on Friday night.

Bogut is watching the playoffs with a cast on his right hand after taking a gruesome fall late in the regular season, but the 20-year-old Jennings keeps stepping up big with darting moves to the hoop and timely jumpers.

"The main thing was just keep attacking, keeping attacking," Jennings said. "The pressure's not on us."

The 37-year-old Thomas, one of the league's oldest players, doesn't show up much on the stat sheet but he may have come up with the biggest play of the game when he stepped out to take a charge from Johnson with 2:15 remaining, the Atlanta star's sixth foul.

The Hawks appeared to be in control leading 82-73 after Josh Smith's long jumper with 4:10 remaining. Milwaukee scored the next 14 points, however, and Jennings wrapped it up by making two free throws with 9 seconds remaining.

Jamal Crawford, who had an awful game one day after winning the NBA's Sixth Man Award, threw up a desperation 3-pointer that missed badly and the Bucks ran out the final seconds. While Milwaukee celebrated with chest bumps in the center of Philips Arena, the Hawks struggled off the court, serenaded by boos from their own crowd.

Crawford was 4 of 18 from the field and finished with 11 points. Al Horford had 25 points and 11 rebounds for the Hawks.

"Bye-bye, Woody!" someone shouted at Atlanta coach Mike Woodson, whose contract is up at the end of a season that is one loss away from ending much earlier than expected.

Atlanta dominated the first two games on its home court and fully expected to win at least one game in Milwaukee, which would have set them up to clinch at home in Game 5.

Instead, it's the gritty Bucks, appearing in the playoffs for the first time since 2006, who are on the verge of moving on to face waiting Orlando in the Eastern Conference semifinals.

Milwaukee shot 41 percent from the field but came through when it mattered, simply outworking an Atlanta team that seemed more and more stunned to find itself in a tough series.

Jennings scores 25, Milwaukee stuns Atlanta



AP

Milwaukee Bucks' Brandon Jennings reacts after the Bucks scored in the fourth quarter of an NBA first-round playoff basketball game against the Atlanta Hawks, Wednesday, April 28, 2010, in Atlanta.

John Salmons added 19 points and Luke Ridnour had 15.

The Bucks continually drove to the hoop in the fourth quarter, drawing foul after foul and hitting 15 of 18 free throws. Stunningly, Atlanta never got to the line in the final period.

Marvin Williams had 22 points for the Hawks, who couldn't overcome the dismal showings by Crawford and Johnson, who managed just 13 points on 6-of-16 shooting before fouling out.

The Hawks appeared to be taking control in the third quarter with the sort of play that had been missing since the first two games in Atlanta.

Johnson took things into his own hands, driving right around Thomas for a dunk that broke a 50-50 tie and sparked a 17-4 run that took less than 4 minutes. Johnson also hit a couple of jumpers during the spurt, and he got plenty of support from Horford and Williams.

Horford scored six points, including a couple of ferocious dunks set up by passes from Mike Bibby. After the second jam, Bibby backpedaled down the court with a smile on his face, the Hawks

appearing to have fun for the first time all night.

Williams scored the other five points in Atlanta's outburst, including a three-point play that began at the other end with a turnover by Salmons. The Hawks ran, Dan Gadzuric got over too late attempting to take the charge and Williams' shot went down.

But the Bucks just wouldn't go away, even though both replacement centers, Thomas and Gadzuric, ran into foul trouble. Thomas picked up his fourth less than 4 minutes into the third quarter, while Gadzuric was whistled for his fifth before the period was done.

Milwaukee tried to get a few

minutes out of fourth-string center Primoz Brezec, then went for a stretch with a two-forward, three-guard lineup that included no one over 6-foot-8 and left the Hawks with a huge size advantage on the inside.

The Hawks' frustration showed early.

Zaza Pachulia sent Jennings flying with a hard whack late in the first quarter, drawing an intentional foul. The 6-1 Jennings hopped off the court as though he wanted to go at the 6-11 Pachulia, but Thomas and the officials stepped in to push the rookie guard away. Ridnour jawed a bit with Pachulia before things calmed down.

Early in the second, Johnson

Magic's Howard fined by NBA for comments on blog

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Even on a day off, Dwight Howard can antagonize officials enough to draw a penalty.

The Orlando Magic center was fined \$35,000 by the NBA on Wednesday for criticizing officials on his blog, the second time this season he's been penalized for posting such comments.

Howard was in chronic foul

trouble and constantly complaining about officiating in the Magic's series sweep over Charlotte. He fouled out in the last two games, played only 105 minutes and committed 22 fouls in four games.

"I'm not looking to say anything to get myself in trouble with the league, but I just don't see other star players getting called for fouls the way I get them,"

doled out another hard foul on Ridenour, who tumbled to the court after taking a bit of a shove with the forearm.

The Bucks dished out some shots of their own. Thomas stepped out to set a pick on Smith, who tumbled to the court and rolled over with a gash over his right eye. He headed to the locker room to get five stitches, but returned to the court late in the period with a bandage covering the wound.

Jennings got off to a start befitting one of the quickest players in the league, scoring 12 straight Milwaukee points in a span of less than 2 minutes to give the Bucks an early 18-15 lead.

Nuggets 116, Jazz 102

At Denver, Carmelo Anthony got the help he was begging for, J.R. Smith found his long-range touch and the Denver Nuggets avoided elimination with a victory over the Utah Jazz.

The Nuggets, trying to become the first team in four years to overcome a 3-1 deficit in the playoffs, sent the series back to Salt Lake City for Game 6 on Friday night despite losing center Nene to a sprained left knee in the first half.

"We know it's going to be a tough game up there, tough arena, Utah fans are pretty tough," Nuggets acting coach Adrian Dantley said. "But we're glad we did what we did tonight."

Anthony had 26 points and 11 rebounds, Chauncey Billups had 21 points, and Smith made four big 3-pointers among his 17 points for Denver, which won a game in which it was facing elimination for the first time since the 1994 Western Conference semifinals against Utah.

The Nuggets had lost eight straight elimination games, six since Anthony joined the team in 2003.

"Now, we have a chance to really, I think, put the pressure back on them," Billups said. "We've just got to go in and play the same way, give it everything we got knowing that if we don't win the season's over."

After infighting and insults dominated their locker room in the aftermath of their two losses at Salt Lake City, the Nuggets were a much more cohesive group even in the face of another outstanding performance by Utah's Deron Williams, who declared after shootaround that he was the best point guard in the NBA right now.

The Nuggets won't disagree.

After watching him average 27.6 points and 12.0 assists over

the first four games of the series, the Nuggets put Billups on Williams from the start instead of Aaron Afflalo.

Williams said nothing would change no matter who was guarding him, and he was right, getting 34 points and 10 assists before fouling out in the final minute.

"We played good defense on him," Dantley insisted, "but he's just a great basketball player."

Carlos Boozer had 25 points and 16 boards for Utah. But backup big man Kyrylo Fesenko, who had played so well in the absence of Andrei Kirilenko (calf) and Mehmet Okur (Achilles' tendon) for the last three games, all Utah wins, didn't do so well Wednesday. He finished with three points and six rebounds in 20 minutes.

The Nuggets led 86-81 after three quarters before pouring it on like they did in Game 1, a 126-113 win.

The Nuggets have been helpless to curb Williams, who is the first player since Magic Johnson 20 years ago to register at least 20 points and 10 assists in each of the first four games of a play-off series.

So, the Nuggets turned to Billups, who has 138 games of playoff experience and was on one of the eight teams that overcame 3-1 playoff deficits (Detroit over Orlando in 2003), and also to rookie Ty Lawson, who brought superior speed to the Nuggets' lineup.

The Nuggets were finally able to capitalize once again on their athleticism and quickness, something that had been stifled since the series opener, in large part because of the many whistles that forced them to keep taking the ball out of bounds.

"They were a lot more alive, they went after the ball a little harder than we did," Utah coach Jerry Sloan said. "The players off the bench gave them a big lift. Their bench people killed us."

Williams backed up his proclamations about being the top point guard in the NBA in the closing minutes of the first half when the Nuggets looked like they were about to take control early.

His two 3-pointers and two free throws highlighted a 12-4 run that sent the Jazz into the locker room with a 52-50 lead.

But he said the Jazz were outplayed and outhustled in the first few minutes of the second half and he put the blame on his shoulders for letting his team lose focus.

The prime example.

Coach Stan Van Gundy and forward Matt Barnes were fined \$35,000 each last week for criticizing officials and publicly questioning their calls on Howard. Orlando's All-Star center also was fined \$15,000 in November for similar comments on his blog, although those were light compared to his latest post.

Phillies edge Giants in 11 innings



SAN FRANCISCO

(AP)—Philadelphia's Wilson Valdez doubled home the go-ahead run in the 11th inning as the Phillies beat the San Francisco Giants 7-6 in the National League on Wednesday to avoid their first sweep of 2010.

Jayson Werth's three-run double with two outs in the ninth kept the visitors in the game.

Phillies slugger Ryan Howard snapped a career-worst 65 at-bat homerless streak in the fifth. It was his first homer since agreeing Monday to a \$125 million, five-year contract extension.

Giants ace Tim Lincecum, the two-time reigning NL Cy Young Award winner, struck out 11 and was poised to win his fifth straight start to begin the year until Giants closer Brian Wilson blew it.

San Francisco's Nate Schierholtz had an RBI double in the bottom of the 11th for his career-high fifth hit but it wasn't enough on a day the Giants stranded 16 baserunners.

Ryan Madson (1-0) pitched one inning for the win. Nelson Figueroa finished for his first career save. Sergio Romo (0-2) took the loss.

Padres 6, Marlins 4

In Miami, San Diego came back from a four-run deficit to beat Florida.

David Eckstein hit a three-run double, while Adrian Gonzalez walked three times and singled home the go-ahead run in the fifth. Yorvit Torrealba hit his first homer and scored twice.

Padres pitcher Kevin Correia (4-1) won his fourth start in a row despite falling behind 4-0 and lasting only five innings. Four relievers combined to allow only two hits over the final four innings.

Florida starter Nate Robertson (2-2), working on three days' rest, held San Diego hitless until the fourth but failed to retire a batter in the fifth, when he allowed five runs.

Florida's Jorge Cantu, who began the day tied for the NL lead with 20 RBIs, drove in two more runs with his fifth homer and a sacrifice fly.

Nationals 3, Cubs 2

In Chicago, rookie Luis Atilano pitched six strong innings to steer Washington to a tight win over Chicago.

Atilano (2-0), in his second start in the majors, allowed only two runs.

Adam Dunn and Adam Kennedy homered for the Nationals (12-10), who hadn't been two games over .500 this far into a season since the inaugural year in Washington, in 2005.

Nationals closer Matt Capps earned his major league-leading 10th save in 10 attempts.

Diamondbacks 12, Rockies 11, 10 innings

In Denver, Kelly Johnson homered to lead off the 10th inning as Arizona, after blowing a six-run lead and then falling behind by five, rallied past Colorado.

Johnson sent a drive from Franklin Morales (0-2) long for his eighth homer of the season, capping a seesaw game that saw abbreviated outings by both starters, a dozen extra-base hits and the ejection of Arizona manager A.J. Hinch.

Arizona reliever Bob Howry (1-0)



Jon Lester (1-2) struck out 11 in seven innings, allowing only one hit in the second, which he followed by retiring 14 straight batters.

Darnell McDonald scored one run and drove in another to help the Red Sox win their sixth straight game in Toronto.

Angels 4, Indians 3

In Anaheim, California, Howie Kendrick's bunt single with two outs in the ninth inning drove in the winning run for Los Angeles against Cleveland.

Torii Hunter hit a tying, three-run homer in the sixth, then a double leading off the ninth against Joe Smith (0-1).

Hideki Matsui was intentionally walked and Kendry Morales ground into a double play, moving Hunter to third. After an intentional walk to Juan Rivera, Kendrick surprised reliever Chris Perez and everyone else with a push bunt to the right of the mound.

Mariners 6, Royals 5

In Kansas City, Milton Bradley scored the tiebreaking run on Rob Johnson's sacrifice fly in the eighth inning, lifting Seattle over Kansas City.

Bradley doubled to leadoff the eighth against Brad Thompson (0-1) and moved to second on a groundout. After reliever Dusty Hughes walked Casey Kotchman, Johnson hit a fly ball to left.

Ichiro Suzuki had three hits, scored a run and drove in a run for the Mariners. Suzuki had his major league-leading 11th multihit game of the season. He has a 14-game hitting streak at Kauffman Stadium, including a record eight consecutive multihit games by an opponent.

Rangers 6, White Sox 5

In Arlington, Josh Hamilton's two-run homer keyed a five-run first inning that set up Texas' tight win over Chicago.

Rangers starter Rich Harden (1-1) pitched six innings despite more control problems. He allowed three runs, hit two batters and walked five, giving him 23 walks in five starts.

The White Sox were unable to capitalize until Carlos Quentin ended a 2-for-37 slide with a three-run homer in the sixth that reduced the deficit to 5-3.

Yankees 8, Orioles 3

In Baltimore, New York took control early to defeat Baltimore.

Yankees starter C.C. Sabathia (3-1) allowed three runs in 7 2-3 innings. In 15 career appearances against the Orioles, he is 10-1. He had gone 54 innings at Camden Yards without allowing a home run until Nick Markakis went long in the seventh.

IOC strips 2000 Games bronze medal from China

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates

(AP)—Ten years after its gymnastics team won an Olympic bronze medal in Sydney, China was ordered to give it back for using an underage girl, allowing the United States to claim it instead.

Acting on evidence that Dong Fangxiao was only 14 at the 2000 Games, the International Olympic Committee on Wednesday stripped the country of the women's team bronze.

Gymnasts must turn 16 during the

Olympic year to be eligible.

"Justice prevailed," said Dominique Dawes, who will now have a medal from each of her three Olympics and four overall. "My teammates are very well-deserving of the bronze medal, and I'm sure each and every one of us will be thrilled. We will cherish it."

Age falsification has been a problem in gymnastics since the 1980s, when the minimum age was raised from 14

to 15 to help protect still-developing athletes from serious injuries. The International Gymnastics Federation raised the minimum age to its current 16 in 1997.

But the issue drew worldwide attention in 2008, when media reports and Internet records suggested some of the girls on host China's gold-medal-winning Olympic team could have been as young as 14. With the controversy threatening to overshadow

the final days of those games, the IOC ordered the FIG to investigate.

Its probe cleared the Beijing gymnasts and closed the case in October 2008 after Chinese officials provided original passports, ID cards and family registers that showed all of the gymnasts were old enough to compete. But the FIG said it wasn't satisfied with "the explanations and evidence provided to date" for Dong and a second Sydney gymnast, Yang Yun.

Navy Hill caging playoffs cast complete

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roelyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The playoff cast in the 2010 Navy Hill Friendship Basketball League is complete with 12 teams marching to the

next round.

Qualifying for the next phase of the league being played at the Garapan Basketball Court are Rollers, Sonics, Diamond, Viel's, Torch Bearer, and Lyn's BBQ of Division A, and Division B's DL Cooking Gas, NVM, Spark, QQ Rent, Grillin', and Yuman Pacific Gold.

Qualifiers in each division will play in the single-elimination playoffs and then the champion of each group will square off for the championship. Format in the finals has yet to be determined.

Meanwhile, the league played one regular game and one exhibition match on Mon-

day and Tuesday, respectively, and will be completing the regular season this weekend.

Star Water failed to make it to the next round, but finally broke into the win column after an 80-72 win over Morales Team.

McClain Achas exploded for 33 points for Star Water to

give his team its first win in 10 games. Morales Team was winless in 10 games. Abe

Sacramento added 14 points. Arnold Capuli top-scored for Morales Team with 21 points. Angelo Hernandez chipped in 15.

In an exhibition game on Tuesday, the Strikers handed

Morales Team back-to-back losses, as the former pulled off an 86-84 victory.

Arman Anasan logged 21 points for the Strikers, while Jun Banayat contributed 17.

Hernandez led Morales Team with 21 points, while Joshua Woodson and Capuli added 12 and 10, respectively.

FIELDERS

From Page 36

the Falcons relieved starting pitcher Tako Camacho with Drew Majofna.

Before Magofna could get the last out, Namelo hit an

infield grounder that snuck in Reyes who had been moved over to third.

To start the fourth, Iguel led off with a single for the Falcons and scored off a Dikito sac-fly.

Starting the bottom half of the fourth with the top of their lineup, the Fielders all but put

the Falcons away.

Magofna and his infield all struggled with control issues in the fourth as multiple errant throws would result in five giveaway runs to the Fielders.

After Namelo reached first after being struck out, the Falcons brought in Thomas Joab

to get their last out.

With the score 12-3 after four, the Fielders were well in control and would go on to hold the Falcons at a nine-run margin before nailing in the coffin in the bottom of the sixth.

James Sablan would reach and score off errors to put the

MCS

From Page 36

missed too many free throws and made too many turnovers to get themselves back in it.

In the fourth, MBA's Paul Carlo Samson hit the only three pointer of the game and Reynold Calbatina came up big off the bench for

MCS with eight points late in the contest. In the end, Mount Carmel won the chance to play again today, 63-35.

Mount Carmel High School and Grace Christian Academy will compete for the boys' championship and the Mount Carmel Lady Knights will take on the girls from Saipan International School. The boys

and girls private school basketball league championships will take place today, April 30, 2010, starting 4:30pm in the Oleai Sports Complex.

Last Wednesday, Mount Carmel defeated Agape Christian School, 55-41, to advance to the semifinals. MBA, meanwhile, edged Saipan International School in a nail

biter, 41-38, to make their way through the semifinals.

For the girls, Grace Christian Academy defeated Marianas Baptist Academy, 35-21, and the Mount Carmel Lady Knights fended off the Grace Christian School in a close 38-34 contest. The Saipan International School girls' team defeated the Agape Christian

Kantz 2.

MBA 35 – Samson 10, Coelho 8, Jo 6, Park 5, Raum 2, Fernandez 2, Jeong 2.

Scoring by quarters: 15-9, 28-18, 49-26, 63-35.

MBI

From Page 36

a comeback.

The defending champions were still in a danger zone when Pepsi still led, 71-67, after a Lauron three-point play, with 2:24 left in the fourth quarter.

After trading misses, Pando Muleta canned a triple to move within one and had a chance to put MBI in the lead after a long time, but muffed an easy layup. Lauron was called for a traveling violation in Pepsi's ensuing play, paving the way for an Art Trajano undergoal stab that gave MBI the lead, 72-71, 1:19 to go in the final quarter.

A George Barbo triple with the 24-second shot clock almost off padded MBI's lead to four, 75-71, but Pepsi refused to give up when

Lansang canned his own triple to threaten, 74-75, with 34 ticks left in regulation.

A Muleta split increased MBI's lead to two, 76-74, but Lauron answered with a pair of charities to force a deadlock, 76-all, with nine seconds left in the final canto.

MBI had two chances to win the match in regulation, but could not complete plays. Muleta went up for a left baseline jumper and faltered, while Ivan De Vero grabbed the offensive board, pulled up for another short jumper, and missed, too.

In overtime, Pepsi still gave MBI a hard time with the match still undecided in the remaining one second of the game.

MBI was up, 89-86, after De Vero's second free throw hit nothing but air, giving automatic possession to Pepsi, which had

no timeout left and was aiming for a catch-and-shoot play. Garon, who is best remembered for throwing a pitch to Lansang for a game-winning jumper in the last two seconds of their win against Hard Rock Cafe, threw another long pass from the back-court. However, Garon failed to make another winning play, as he didn't have enough time and the ball hit Glenn Maglaya's hands first before reaching Lansang's as time expired.

De Vero top-scored for MBI's tough win with 25 points, while Muleta added 24 markers, including four in extension. Noel David chipped in 16, going 3-for-5 from the stripe in overtime.

Lauron led all scorers with his 34 points, but fouled out in the last 1:34 of the overtime. Garon and Lansang contributed 23 apiece.

Pepsi was in control of the match majority of the time, as MBI played too complacent, allowing Lauron and Garon several inside shots.

In the first game, Hard Rock Café had another no-show, giving Saipan Grand Hotel/Docomo a win via forfeiture.

The league is on the final two weeks of the regular season and the last few games will determine the Top 4 teams that will draw a bye in the first round of the playoffs.

MBI 89 – De Vero 25, Muleta 24, David 16, Nonato 12, Barbo 7, Trajano 6, Cordero 1.

Pepsi 86 – Lauron 34, Lansang 23, Garon 23, Cepeda 4, Obnimaga 2.

Scoring by quarters: 20-18, 34-38, 51-58, 76-76, 89-86 (OT).

We never did hear Kiper talk about Scott Sicko, the tight end from New Hampshire who went undrafted and then declared he was retiring from the game. A few days later, the Dallas Cowboys persuaded him to sign as a free agent.

Which leads me to a story I would like you to believe.

Scott Sicko wanted to change his name and petitioned the court.

The grey-haired judge read the document, and nodded his head. Looking over his reading glasses, he peered out at the well-built young man and said, "Hmm. I see. Have people made fun of you because of your name?"

The football player replied, "Yes, your honor. That's correct."

The wise man in a black robe nodded his head in empathy and asked, "What would you like to change your name to?"

"Fred"

GUESSING

From Page 36

ion time and time again. He created an industry, a niche, for which he gets credit. Everyone else has to shut up when he talks about, say, a linebacker from Sam Houston State that they never heard of. And he asserts his opinions with confidence.

Both Nostradamus and Kiper have that necessary attribute when it comes to selling yourself: chutzpah.

Las Vegas and the Internet has a load of tout services where you can pay to get the correct winners of upcoming games. Of course, it's a load of you know what. They don't possess any special knowledge when it comes to picking against the spread.

I remember a few years ago

when out of thousands of contestants in a Hilton pick'em tournament, the winner was a woman who didn't even watch football.

Once in Las Vegas, I got a call from one self-proclaimed expert who offered to tell me who was going to win a certain NFL exhibition game.

Now betting on NFL games is a crapshoot to begin with but betting on exhibition games is nothing but pure chance because the coaches are not trying to win the game. When you add the vigorish, it's obviously a bad bet with the advantage squarely with the house. But as we all know some people are nuts and just want to bet on NFL games regardless.

So this guy who thought he was talking to my dad says he will tell me the winner of the Vikings/Dolphins game for a hundred bucks. Having no in-

tention of either paying him or betting on the game, I engage in a heated argument with him. I was having fun but he was trying to make money and was dead serious.

When I asked about a lowly-regarded rookie, "Do you really have that much confidence in McGwire?", he replied, "Who?" He didn't even know who the quarterback was. How could he possibly know who would cover the spread? He hung up the phone without my credit card info but blurted out his pick in sheer frustration. The next day I saw that his team lost. But I am sure after talking to me, he tried to find another sucker.

The reason for this rant is because Kiper predicted that Tim Tebow would not be a successful NFL quarterback. That's when I did some checking into Kiper's past predictions.

We never did hear Kiper talk about Scott Sicko, the tight end from New Hampshire who went undrafted and then declared he was retiring from the game. A few days later, the Dallas Cowboys persuaded him to sign as a free agent.

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The football player replied, "Yes, your honor. That's correct."

The wise man in a black robe nodded his head in empathy and asked, "What would you like to change your name to?"

"Fred"

Fielders up by 10 after six.

Fittingly, the 2010 SML strikeout king Shane Mendiola would finish game one with a strikeout as the Fielders flew by the Falcons 13-3 in seven innings.

Mendiola pitched all seven innings with seen strikeouts,

eight hits, a walk, and three earned runs.

The fourth-seed Brewers, who lead their series by one, will try to eliminate the pennant champion Rangers in Game 2 of their best-of-three playoff series today at 6:30pm at the Oleai Sports Complex.

TTRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA LEADERS

Scoring

	G	FG	FT	PTS	Avg
Wade, MIA	5	.62	.27	166	33.2
Anthony, DEN	5	.58	.42	164	32.8
James, CLE	5	.55	.36	159	31.8
Williams, UTA	5	.39	.50	141	28.2
Rose, CHI	5	.57	.18	134	26.8
Nowitzki, DAL	5	.45	.35	127	25.4
Durant, OKC	5	.38	.40	124	24.8
Nelson, ORL	4	.30	.23	95	23.8
Johnson, ATL	5	.48	.16	116	23.2
Boozer, UTA	5	.50	.13	113	22.6
Richardson, PHX	5	.39	.18	113	22.6
Bryant, LAL	5	.37	.26	109	21.8
Jennings, MIL	5	.39	.16	104	20.8
Westbrook, OKC	5	.36	.26	102	20.4
Stoudemire, PHX	5	.37	.27	101	20.2
Salmons, MIL	5	.37	.23	100	20.0
Gasol, LAL	5	.37	.25	99	19.8
Aldridge, POR	5	.35	.27	98	19.6
Pierce, BOS	5	.32	.23	98	19.6
R. Allen, BOS	5	.33	.12	97	19.4

FG Percentage

	FG	FGA	PCT
Thomas, CHA	15	24	.625
Millsap, UTA	34	56	.607
Bynum, LAL	28	48	.583
Garnett, BOS	26	45	.578</td

All Schools qualifier on Tinian draws 16 students



Tinian High School and Tinian Junior High School students and their coaches pose for a group photo during a break in the qualifying tournament for the 2010 All Schools Track and Field Championships last week.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER


Northern Marianas Athletics brought the qualifying tournament for the 2010 All Schools Track and Field Championships to Tinian last week and attracted 16 students from Tinian High School and Tinian Junior High School.

NMA held qualifiers for 10 events to determine Tinian student-athletes who will join Saipan bents in the 2010 All Schools Track and Field Championships, which will run from May 13 to 15 at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

In the running events, only the Top 8 qualifiers from Saipan and Tinian will make it to next month's big tournament, while

the field events will have slots for the Top 12 qualifiers. In the past qualifying tournaments, Saipan is given automatic six slots in each event, while the remaining two are reserved for Tinian and Rota. However, in the past Rota could not send student-athletes due to financial constraints so the format for the selection changed.

The first qualifying event held on Tinian was the girls U14 100m run with Raynalyn Borja timing in at 16.77 seconds to beat Seo Yun Ha (17.74 seconds). In the boys U14 100m race, five runners competed with Adam Cabrera leading the way, timing in at 14 seconds. Francisco Sanchez Jr. came in second at 14.29 seconds, followed by Hermes Ramos (14.38 seconds), John Untalan (15.89 seconds), and Eric Hofsneider (16.88 seconds).

In the boys U18 100 run, there was only a two-man race between Patrick Diaz and Ervin Cruz with the former winning at 14.50 seconds against the latter's 15.39.

The boys U14 200m race lured three runners with Sanchez this time beating Cabrera, as the former submitted 29.63 seconds over the latter's 30.11 seconds. Ramos came in third anew, at 35.48 seconds.

In the boys U18 200m race, Diaz (34.08 seconds) won, again against Cruz (36.21 seconds). Diaz ruled three more events, topping the boys U18 800m run (03:05.00), long jump (4.94m), and shot put (8.48m).

Borja notched victories in two more events in the girls U14 division, while Cabrera also reigned supreme in two more competitions in the same age group in the boys division.

Borja prevailed in the 800m (03:03.00) and 1,500m (07:16.9) races, while Cabrera won in the 3,000m run (13:33.00) and lung jump (4.83m).

Other first placers in the remaining events were Hui Jin

Kim (boys U18 800m and 1,500m races), Shitong Chen (boys U14 1,500m), Kyle Sandbergen (boys U14 shot put), John Untalan (boys U14 discus), Sanchez (boys U14 javelin), and Cruz (boys U18 javelin).

Tinian and Saipan student-athletes who will make the grade for the All Schools will only be determined next week, as NMA was still waiting for results of the last qualifier on Saipan yesterday.

Over 80K raised in NMC Open golf tournament



More than \$80,000 in cash and in-kind prizes were raised in the 8th Annual NMC Foundation Open golf tournament.

NMC Foundation director Ivan Quichocho, during the awards banquet for the annual tournament on Sunday at the club house of the Laolao Bay Golf Resort, announced the money collected were from sponsors alone and this did not include yet funds gained from the registration fees of players.

"The funds raised from the sponsors alone was more than the \$70,000 we had last year and we have the sponsors and the players to thank for making this fundraiser a successful one," Quichocho said.

Quichocho added that this year the NMC Open drew more than 30 sponsors from last year's total.

NMC Board of Regents chair Janet King, who was with Quichocho during the awards ceremony and delivered the welcome remarks, thanked all golfers and the private and public sectors for their contribution to the success of the event.

"Your support will go a long way as far as enhancing educational opportunities for



Jess Wabol, left, gets ready to tee off at No. 13, while Jeff Taylor looks on during the NMC Open golf tournament at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort on Saturday.

CNMI students is concerned," King said.

One-hundred forty eight players registered for the event held on the west course of the Kagman facility and a few more attempted to sign up on the day of the tournament, but organizers had to turn them down, as the course was fully booked.

With 148 players, the tournament ended past 1pm. This year's NMC Open drew more participants than last year's 140.

It had competitions in six flights with Korean Jong Won Lee winning the centerpiece

Championship Flight after drilling a 1-over par 73 and beating six other players.

Other flight winners were Jeong Yoon Kim (Ladies low gross), Leina Kim (Ladies low net), Dave Cepeda (C Flight), Jess Wabol (Seniors Flight), Federico Flores (A Flight), and Jun Yi Piao (B Flight).

The top finishers in each flight won \$500 each. Runners-up took home \$300, while third placers pocketed \$200. The first placers also received a round-trip ticket from Continental Airlines (Asia and Micronesia routes only). (Roselyn B. Monroyo)

Brabu tops UDL Awareness Month softball tourney

By WALTER J. SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER


The CNMI Youth Advisory Council and Juvenile Justice Task Force held its first ever Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Youth Softball Tournament on April 24 and 25.

It was one of their awareness activities for the month of April, which has been proclaimed as Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Awareness Month.

The tournament was organized by the Natibu Sports Association as part of their community youth outreach efforts.

Natibu's motto is, "Cover Home, Anti-Crime Attitude," which is intended to remind the youth and community that it is our responsibility to keep drugs, alcohol, and crime out of our homes.

Brabu, Calikano, St. Michael's, Kagman High, Wettz, and Fielders were the six teams that participated in the co-ed tournament.

To help kids remember that 21 is the legal drinking age, the age limit for participating in the tourney was set at 21 years and under.



Brabu won first place in last weekend's Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Youth Softball Tournament organized by the Natibu Sports Association.

"I think the kids really enjoyed themselves, it's not too often that they get to play softball with some of the older participants," said Natibu Sports Association president Isidoro Camacho.

Team Brabu came in first to top the tournament, Calikano took second, the youngsters from St. Michael's claimed third, and Wettz was awarded with the good sportsmanship award.

All teams were awarded a tro-

phy, certificate, and some prizes for participating in the event.

"I think the tournament was a big success and I look forward to having more activities like this for our youths. We're planning, on perhaps, making this an annual event for the kids. It helps send out the message about enforcing the underage drinking laws," said Sgt. Joe Saures from the Department of Public Safety and vice chairman of the CNMI

Youth Justice Task Force.

The task force sends thanks to all agencies that participated in the event, especially the NSA for organizing and officiating the tournament.

Tomorrow, April 30, the task force is planning a youth conference as their last activity for UDL Awareness Month, which will be held at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan. All high school students on island are invited to attend.

NMIFA kicks off youth festival tomorrow

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER


The 2010 N M I F A Y o u t h F o o t b a l l

Spring League will culminate the season with a series of football festivals starting tomorrow.

Saturday's festivities will be for three age groups and will be divided into two venues, the San Antonio Elementary School and Hopwood Junior High School. Teams in the U6 and U8 age groups will have their football festival at the Home of the Octopus, while U11 strikers will play at the Home of the Hilitais.

The next two football festivals will be for U14 and U18 age groups and venues and dates will be announced later. In the past, Northern Mariana Islands Football Association held only one festival for all age group, but this season, NMIFA decided to hold three separate festivities to give players more time and more opportunity to play.

In the U6 division, all eight teams will play from 8am to 12:30pm and each squad will have three games. The eight teams competing in a 5 aside

game are Independents, Matansa G-1 and Matansa T-1, MP United Silver, Blue, and White, Paire, and Tan Holdings.

Each game will be played in two eight-minute halves and will only have a two-minute break.

In the U8 age group, the 10 teams will play in San Antonio in a 7 aside format. Matches are scheduled to run from 8am to 3:30pm and each game will be played in two 10-minute halves.

Teams seeing action in the U18 festival are MP United Blue, White, and Silver, Matansa T-1 and G-1, Tan Holdings 1 and 2, IFC, and Paire 1 and 2. Each team will play three games.

Over at the Hopwood Junior High School Field, the Hilitais will host 16 teams in the u11 division.

The participating teams are divided into two groups with Pool 1 composed of Paire 4, Matansa 1, MP United 4, IFC 1, Paire 1, Tan Holdings 2, Matansa G-1, and MP White. Pool 2 has IFC 3, MP Blue, Paire 3, Tan Holdings 1, IFC 2, Matansa G-2, Paire 1, and MPU Silver. Each squad will play three games with each match having two 10-minute halves.



Jennings scores
25, Milwaukee
stuns Atlanta

PAGE 32

Saipan Tribune Sports



36 FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 2010

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Fielders rout Falcons, 13-3

MBI outlasts Pepsi in OT

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER


Defending champion Micronesian Brokers, Inc./Dial Full Force withstood Pepsi's gallant stand, eking out an 89-86 overtime win during their game in the 2nd Annual Shirley's Coffee Shop Invitational Basketball League on Wednesday at the JP Center Basketball Court.

The victory moved MBI back on top of the leaderboard in the 15-team field, as the defending champions improved to a 10-2 record, half a game ahead of Aqua Resort Club (10-3) and World Resort (10-3).

Pepsi dropped to a 3-7 record, but put up a strong fight, almost handing MBI another disappointing loss.

Pepsi led by as much as 12 in the third period, 56-44, behind Alex Lauron and Jojo Garon's inside game and Erland Lansang's outside shooting before MBI finally got back into its senses in the last two minutes of regulation and made

See MBI on Page 34



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MBI/Dial Full Force's Pando Muleta drives baseline against Pepsi's Alex Lauron during their game in the Shirley's caging on Wednesday at the JP Center Basketball Court.

Guessing games

Nostradamus was a con man. He knew if he made a flood of predictions, some of them would be right even if many would be wrong. Further, if he made them vague enough, he understood that multiple interpretations increased the chances he could be right. The smart doctor pulled off the scam by emphasizing the times he was correct, and ignoring all the times he was wrong.

While I would never call Mel Kiper Jr. a flim-flam man running

bunko, he does well giving out his opinion on the NFL futures of college players that while informed has no better chance of being right than your mother does.

Don't get me wrong. I respect Kiper for his enthusiasm and knowledge. It's just that his crystal ball is cloudy when it comes to predicting success in the NFL. I know that, thanks to Mr. Google. Kiper predicted stardom for Ryan Leaf, Andre Ware, and JaMarcus Russell. His erroneous predictions are more documented than Tiger Woods' mistresses.

But like Nostradamus, Kiper benefits from giving his opin-

See GUESSING on Page 34



WALTER J. SUTHERLAND

The Fielders pose for a picture after making short work of the Falcons, winning Game 1 of their best-of-three series in the 2010 Saipan Major League semifinals Wednesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By WALTER J. SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Fielders batters had a field day against the Falcons' revolving door of pitchers, scoring seven runs off eight hits to take Game 1 of their best-of-three semifinal series, 13-3, in the 2010 Saipan Major League Wednesday night at Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

After a silent first inning, the Falcons started off well and put the first runs of the game on board.

Juan Iguel, Nunu Kapileo, and Jerro Jones each singled to start the inning and with the bases loaded, Lawrence Dikito singled in Iguel before an extra bad throw brought in Jones to make it 2-0 for the Falcons.

In the second half, the Fielders answered back as Ryan Ada and Eli Aughenbaugh each led off with singles.

Jason Reyes singled in Ada and Aughenbaugh came in off a passed ball.

After Wensner Namelo's walk, Jason Reyes scored off a Justin Reyes sacrifice fly.

John Reyes kept the Fielders rolling with a single that set up Juan Maritita's two RBI double.

With the score, 5-2, in favors of the Fielders, the Falcons went 1-2-3 in the top of the third.

In the bottom half, the Fielders tacked on three more runs.

Aughenbaugh roped a triple that scored Ada from first base, who led off with a walk.

After Jason Reyes singled in Aughenbaugh,

See FIELDERS on Page 34

MCS Knights advance to finals

By WALTER J. SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



The Knights of Mount Carmel High School advanced to the finals after defeating the Marianas Baptist Academy Storms, 63-35, in yesterday's semifinals of the Coalition of Private School Sports Association Basketball League held at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Knights were the smaller team, but they used their speed and aggressiveness to spread the court and optimize their transition offense.

The game started out close as Mount Carmel team captain Sean Sablan was held to only four points in each of the first two quarters.

However, to counter the defensive tactic put on by the Storms, the Knights did do a good job of working the ball around to the open man as five different players contributed to the Knights' first quarter total. Richard Park led the way for the Storms with two field goals and a free throw. The

score was 15-9, Knights, after the opening quarter of play.

In the second, the Storms began to share the ball better, but the Knights fought for a lot of loose balls and were able to minimize some mistakes that helped them protect the possession of the ball. To support Sean Sablan for the Knights, Jared Sablan stepped up and delivered six points in the second. At the half, the Knights held a comfortable 10-point lead, 28-18.

In the third quarter, Sean Sablan caught on fire and rained buckets on the Storms. With 19 points, Sablan accounted for all but two of the Knights' third quarter point total. After three, with the score at 49-26, the Knights' lead grew to a comfortable 23 points.

The big and powerful Storms roster did not seem to match up well with the speedy Knights of Mount Carmel and the fact that MBA made only two out of 17 free throws in the game did not help at all. Throughout the entire game, the Storms were getting opportunities to keep it close, but

See MCS on Page 34



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Sean Sablan scored 26 points in Mt. Carmel School's 63-35 demolition of MBA during their semis game in the COPSSA caging yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

OFF THE BENCH

By BOB COLDEEN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Coldeen is a longtime journalist in the CNMI and is currently the news director of KSPN2

